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SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS



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II

THE PARLEMENT OF THE THRE AGES

An Alliterative Poem on the Nine Worthies and the Heroes of Romance



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II

THE PARLEMENT OF THE THRE AGES

I WOL BIWAYLE IN MANER OF TRAGEDIE
THE HARM OF HEM THAT STODE IN HEIGH DEGREE,
AND FILLEN SO THAT THER NAS NO REMEDIE
TO BRINGE HEM OUT OF HIR ADVERSITEE;
FOR CERTEIN, WHAN THAT FORTUNE LIST TO FLEE,
THER MAY NO MAN THE COURS OF HIR WITHHOLDE;
LAT NO MAN TRUSTE ON BLIND PROSPERITEE;
BE WAR BY THISE ENSAMPLES TREWE AND OLDE.

Chaucer, The Monkes Tale.

PREFACE

The Manuscripts. The Parlement of the Thre Ages, first printed by the present editor for the Roxburghe Club in 1897, is preserved in one of Robert Thornton's famous miscellanies of English poems and romances. The MS. was acquired by the British Museum in 1879; its press-mark is Additional MSS. 31042. It is a quarto of the fifteenth century, containing in all twenty-six different items. The present poem is to be found on pages 169-76 b.

At the Crawford sale in 1891 the British Museum purchased a manuscript miscellany, belonging originally to Sir James Ware (ob. 1666), and included in the catalogue of his books printed at Dublin in 1648. The collection of pieces, originally bound together,1 comprises for the most part works relating to Ireland, topographical, linguistic, and legendary, the whole of the contents being in Latin and Irish, with the exception of sixteen pages at the end, written in an English hand of the fifteenth century. It was the good fortune of the writer to identify these pages as being a large part of The Parlement of the Thre Ages (from line 226 to the end), and the discovery proved of value, for several difficulties in Add. 31042 were cleared up by the newly-discovered fragment (numbered 33994 in the Museum collection). In the present volume the more important variant readings are quoted in the textual notes at the end. The MSS. are clearly independent of each other in their relationship to the original MS.

¹ The history of the volume is given in the Museum Catalogue under Add. 33991.

The fragment is followed by a short list, in the same hand, headed 'Distretacio Rerum':

'An heerd of hertis
An heerd of dere
An heerd of Cranes
An heerd of Curlues
An heerd of wrennes
An heerd of Wrennes
An heerd of Wrennes
An Heerd of Wrennes
An Heerd of Market
An Heerd

In view of the almost technical character of much of alliterative poetry, this catalogue of terms, written at the end of the *Parlement*, is not without interest (cp. Juliana Bernes's *Boke of Huntinge*, Twety's *Treatise on Venery*, &c.).

General Characteristics of the Poem. The MSS. of The Parlement of the Thre Ages afford no direct evidence of authorship, date of composition, or the original locality of the poem. One's first impression is that The Parlement is a sort of summary of longer poems—an epitome reminiscent of lines and passages in the chief alliterative poems of the second half of the fourteenth century. On the other hand, no criteria gainsay the theory that would assign it to the author of Winnere and Wastoure, which can be dated not much later than 1350; and so it may have been the prologue rather than the epilogue of the alliterative revival.1 The opening and closing lines seem to connect it with Piers the Plowman; the elaborate machinery of the deer-stalking suggests points of contact with the masterly description of the hunting of the deer, the boar, and the fox, in Sir Gawayne and the Grene Knyght. The author's delight in bright colours, and a certain joyousness in his

¹Cp. Preface to Winnere and Wastoure. A striking list of parallel passages from The Parlement as compared with Gawayne, Alexander, Troy Book, Titus, and Morte Arthure, is given by Dr. George Neilson, in Huchovn of the Aule Ryale (1902), in support of his theory, which would assign to that author all these poems and more.

descriptions, together with occasional characteristic marks of diction, recall the poet of Sir Gawayne; but in poetical talent, as well as in wealth of language, to say nothing of intellectual power and acquirements of learning, our author is altogether inferior to that gifted 'maker'. His choice of theme, so well suited to the genius of the new-old poetry. with its picturesqueness, colour, lofty aspiration, and didactic tendency, was certainly a happy inspiration; and his achievement, though it reveals occasional lapses, must have been regarded by his contemporaries as eminently successful. Parlement of the Thre Ages wears with conscious dignity the livery of a great and ancient house.

The Nine Worthies. The list of the heroes and heroines of romance enumerated in The Parlement of the Thre Ages is by far the fullest to be found in Middle-English literature, and forms a valuable supplement to the account of the 'wyghes that were wyseste'; both sections are evidently an extension of the author's original scheme to write in the grand style a panegyric on 'The Nine Worthies'.

It would seem that he took his subject from the most famous 'Alexander' romance of the fourteenth century, Longuyon's Vaux du Paon, written at the beginning of the century, and at once popular throughout Western Europe.1 Two French poets continued Longuyon's work; it was soon translated into Dutch,² and probably before the middle of the next century was independently rendered into Scottish verse by two poets at work about the same time—the one, a nameless poet, using Barbour's octosyllabic verse; 3 the other, the famous Sir Gilbert

¹ Cp. M. Paul Meyer's remarks in Bulletin de la Société des Anciens Textes francais, 1883, &c.; also the same scholar's Alexandre le Grand dans la litt. fr., 1886. ² Cp. Bibliotheek van Middelnederlandsche Letterkunde: 'Roman van Cassamus uitgegeven door Dr. Eelco Verwijs'; this is a fragment; it does not yield us a Dutch rendering of 'The Nine Worthies'.

The first section of his book consists of the 'Forray of Gadderis',

Hay ('Chamberlain to the French King,' Charles VII), to whom Dunbar alludes in his Lament, showing his preference for the heroic couplet. The two versions, absolutely distinct, are often confused; the former, written in 1438, was printed for Arbuthnet, about 1580, and again reprinted in 1831 by the Bannatyne Club; the latter, still unprinted, is extant in two MSS. belonging to the Marquis of Breadalbane. The romance was the delight of that rough chieftain 'the Black Duncan'. It may be inferred that Gilbert Hay's French manuscript did not contain the account of 'The Nine Worthies'; the passage is not to be found in his translation.

Appendices VI and VII give the French original, evidently used by the author of *The Parlement of the Thre Ages*, together with the corresponding passage in Arbuthnet's *Buik of the most Noble and Vailzeand Conquerour*.

The subject of 'The Nine Worthies' seems to have had special attraction for the poets of the North of England and Scotland. Perhaps the finest treatment of the theme is Arthur's Dream in the alliterative Morte Arthure,² the great Arthurian romance, written about 1380, imperishably enshrined in Malory's immortal prose.³ Later, Ane Ballet de novem

taken from the Roman d'Alixandre, the fourth, fifth, sixth, and half of the seventh Chansons (cp. Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the Brit. Mus., Add. 16956). 'The Forray of Gadderis', in particular, shows Barbour's influence; we know that he was familiar with the story (cp. Barbour's Bruce, book iii). Dr. A. Herrmann, in his Untersuchungen (Halle, 1893), disposes of the theory that the first section of The Buik of Alexander, and the second and third sections, might be by different hands.

¹ Cp. The Black Book of Taymouth, Bannatyne Club, 1855. Gilbert of the Haye's Prose MS. has been published by the Scottish Text Society, ed.

J. H. Stevenson (1896, 1914).

The Dream' is a vision of 'Fortune's Wheel', the kings being vividly described. This fine episode is possibly the original source of the alliterative-stanzaic poem entitled 'Fortune' (cp. Reliquiae Antiquae).

³ Malory suppresses the last part, the part containing 'The Dream', and replaces it in his twenty-first book by the version of Harl. MS. 2252, 'Le Mort Arthur' (cp. Sommer, Sources of 'Le Morte Darthur', p. 175). On the other hand, Caxton, in his Preface to 'Le Morte Darthur', has an

nobilibus puts forward a claim for 'Robert the Brois' as not below any of 'the Nine' in doughty deeds.¹

It is maintained by M. Paul Meyer that Longuyon's verses on 'The Nine Worthies' mark their first appearance in literature. There is no evidence that 'the Nine' had previously figured in pageants, tapestry, or decorative embellishments. The impression, however, given by the passage in Longuyon suggests that its introduction into the Vaux du Paon may have been due to an already existing 'device' or 'ballad'. It is interesting to note that the author of the Cursor Mundi, belonging to the beginning of the fourteenth century, was evidently familiar with 'the Nine'; in the Prologue he mentions the three Pagans and the three Christians. The three Jewish Worthies are omitted in his brief enumeration, for the design of the work is to tell the biblical story at full length.

As an indication of the popularity of the subject, it is necessary to point out that the earliest extant example of block-printing is an elaborate pictorial representation of the 'Worthies', preserved in the National Library, Paris, and belonging to about the year 1455.²

It does not come within the province of the present study

interesting statement to the effect that 'many noble and dyuers gentylmen of thys royame of Englond camen and demaunded me many and oftymes wherfore that I have not do made and emprynte the noble hystorye of the saynt greal and of the moost renomed crysten kyng, first and chyef of the thre best crysten and worthy'; then follows a summary account of the Nine Worthies.

¹ Appendix x.

² Reproduced in M. Thierry-Poux's elaborate portfolio of facsimiles illustrative of early printing. The verses will be found in the Appendix. To about the same time belong the fragments discovered at Metz. The orthography is somewhat different from that of the Paris version. (Op. Bulletin de la Société d'Archéologie de la Moselle, 1862, &c.) Concerning 'The Nine Worthies', see further Dunlop's History of Prose Fiction, ed. H. Wilson, vol. i, p. 270; Warton's History of English Poetry, ed. W. C. Hazlitt, vol. ii, p. 193; article by J. J. Guiffrey in Mémoires de la Société nationale des Antiquaires de France, vol. xl (1880).

to carry the history of 'The Nine Worthies' into the sixteenth century. Shakespeare's Love's Labour's Lost attests its popularity as a mumming-play among the rustics of England; there is extant 'the book of the words' of one of the plays at least a hundred years older than the pageant presented by Don Armado and his friends. 'Pompey the Great' did not always oust the conqueror of Britain, yet, on the strength of Shakespeare's burlesque, most people would now assign him a place among the famous Nine. The lamentable story of 'Pyramus and Thisbe' is not more closely associated with Bottom the Weaver, Starveling, and Quince, than are the Nine Worthies with 'the pedant, the braggart, the hedge-priest, the fool, and the boy':—

'Abate throw at novum; and the whole world again Cannot prick out five such, take each one in his vein.'

¹ Cp. Appendix xi. 'Divers play Alexander in the villages,' observes Williams in his Discourse of Warre, 1590, 'but few or none in the field.'



May seems out to day take Par carde 40 40 ms and after the trace orallists bruse and the agolding the and the second & Amosalio of Antroops Africo 40 40 Sydon In tolklango the judge and IDuko (tay Dhill and author and specie Holmore mor at the nose that now soldso payle have to stolering ends grace of god Pan BBO & Other Com agnio cholow depolo nat alto (Comungo Go jogo and pademi Do boy runn damoo But the Feeth Som Jaco to to Sellan go asomuta Wallo In all anoign lafano tight morte contiso of 1 met actor 1 exchange and on was to ten a man mone or any man of they o mistage of the famo and others of and the the treeper from in the for and has But pape to alarge to light to promote Omashites (Royo Byshe By to Dangsonno fre The Bord to to ground to a bol and freezenio at the note of Antonia and any also full to and freezenessand by ordes of . som o don Jan to said

PROLOGUE,

N THE monethet of Maye when mirthes bene fele, And the sesone of somere when softe bene the wedres, Als I went to the wodde my werdes to dreghe, In-to be schawes my-selfe a schotte me to gete 5 At ane hert or ane hynde, happen as it myghte: And as Dryghtyn the day droue frome be heuen, Als I habade one a banke be a bryme syde, There the gryse was grene growen with floures-The primrose, the pervynke, and piliole be richeto The dewe appen dayses donkede full faire, Burgons & blossoms & braunches full swete. And the mery mystes full myldely gane falle: The cukkowe, the cowschote, kene were pay bothen. And the throstills full throly threpen in the bankes, 15 And iche foule in that frythe faynere pan oper That the derke was done & the daye lightenede: Hertys and hyndes one hillys pay gouen, The foxe and the filmarte pay flede to be erthe, The hare hurkles by hawes, & harde thedir dryves, 20 And ferkes faste to hir fourme & fatills hir to sitt. Als I stode in that stede one stalkynge I thoughte; Bothe my body and my bowe I buskede with leues; And turnede to-wardes a tree & tariede there a while; And als I lokede to a launde a littill me be-syde,

- 25 I seghe ane hert with ane hede, are heghe for the nones; Alle vnburneschede was po beme, full borely po mydle, With iche feetur as thi fote, for-frayed in the greues, With auntlers one aythere syde egheliche longe; The ryalls full richely raughten frome the myddes,
- 30 With surryals full semely appon sydes twayne;
 And he assommet and sett of vi. and of †fyve,
 And per-to borely and brode and of body grete,
 And a coloppe for a kynge, cache hym who myghte.
 Bot there sewet hym a sowre pat seruet hym full 3erne,
- 35 That woke & warned hym when the wynde faylede,
 That none so sleghe in his slepe with sleghte scholde hym
 dere,

And went the wayes hym by-fore when any wothe tyde. My lyame than full lightly lete I down falle, And to the bole of a birche my berselett I cowchide;

- 4° I waitted wiesly the wynde by waggynge of leues,
 Stalkede full stilly no stikkes to breke,
 And crepite to a crabtre and couerede me ther-vndere:
 Then I bende vp my bowe and bownede me to schote,
 Tighte vp my tylere and taysede at the hert:
- 45 Bot the sowre pat hym sewet sett vp the nese,
 And wayttede wittyly abowte & wyndide full 3erne.
 Then I moste stonde als I stode, and stirre no fote ferrere,
 For had I my[n]tid or mouede or made any synys,
 Alle my layke hade bene loste pat I hade longe wayttede.
- 50 Bot gnattes gretely me greuede and gnewen myn eghne;
 And he stotayde and stelkett and starede full brode,
 Bot at the laste he loutted down & laughte till his mete,
 And I hallede to the hokes and the hert smote,
 And happenyd that I hitt hym by-hynde be lefte scholdire,
- 55 pat pe blode braste owte appon bothe the sydes:

 And he balkede and brayed and bruschede thurgh pe greues,

As alle had hurlede one ane hepe pat in the holte longede; And sone the sowre pat hym sewet resorte to his feris, And pay, forfrayede of his fare, to be fellys pay hyen;

- 60 And I hyede to my hounde and hent hym vp sone,
 And louset my lyame and lete hym vmbycaste;
 The breris and the brakans were blody by-ronnen;
 And he assentis to pat sewte and seches hym aftire,
 There he was crepyde in-to a krage and crouschede to be erthe;
- 65 Dede als a dore-nayle doun was he fallen;
 And I hym hent by he hede and heryett hym vttire,
 Turned his troches & tachede thaym in-to the erthe,
 Kest vp that keuduart and kutt of his tonge,
 Brayde [out] his bowells my berselett to fede,
- 70 And I s[clis]te hym at pe assaye to see how me semyde,
 And he was floreschede full faire of two fyngere brode.
 I chese to the chawylls chefe to be-gynn,
 And ritte down at a rase reghte to the tayle,
 And pan po herbere anone aftir I makede,
- 75 I raughte the righte legge by-fore, ritt it per-aftir,
 And so fro legge to legge I lepe thaym aboute,
 And pe felle fro pe fete fayre I departede,
 And flewe it down with my fiste faste to the rigge;
 I tighte owte my trenchore and toke of the scholdirs,
- 80 Cuttede corbyns bone and kest it a-waye;
 I slitte hym full sleghely, and slyppede in my fyngere,
 Lesse the poynte scholde perche the pawnche or the guttys:
 I soughte owte my sewet and semblete it to-gedre,
 And pullede oute the paw[n]che and putt it in an hole:
- 85 I grippede owte the guttes and graythede thaym be-syde,
 And than the nombles anone name I there-aftire,
 Rent vp fro the rygge reghte to the myddis;
 And than the fourches full fayre I fonge fro posydes,
 And chynede hym chefely, and choppede of the nekke,

90 And po hede and the haulse homelyde in sondree;
po fete of the fourche I feste thurgh the sydis,
And heuede alle in-to ane hole and hidde it with ferne,
With hethe and with hore mosse hilde it about,
pat no fostere of the fee scholde fynde it ther-aftir;

pat no hunte scholde it hent ne haue it in sighte.
I foundede faste there-fro for ferde to be wryghede,
And sett me oute one a syde to see how it cheuede,
To wayte it frome wylde swyne that wyse bene of nesse;

And I for slepeles was slome and slomerde a while,

And I for slepeles was slome and slomerde a while,

And there me dremed, in that dowte, a full dreghe sweuynn

And whate I seghe in my saule the sothe I schall telle.

I.

I SEGHE thre thro men threpden full 3erne
And mot[ed]en of myche-whate and maden thaym full tale.
And 3e will, ledys, me listen ane [littille]-while,
I schall reken thaire araye redely for sothe,
And to 3owe neuen thaire names naytly there-aftire.
The firste was a ferse freke, fayrere than thies othere,
NO A bolde beryn one a blonke bownne for to ryde.

A hathelle on ane heghe horse with hauke appon hande.

He was balghe in the breste and brode in the scholdirs,

His axles and his armes were [eghe-]liche longe,

And in the medill als a mayden menskfully schapen.

He streighte hym in his sterapis and stode vp-rightes.

He ne hade no hode ne no hatte bot his here one,

A chaplet one his chefe-lere, chosen for the nones,

Raylede alle with rede rose, richeste of floures,

With trayfoyles and trewloues of full triede perles,

With a chefe chareboole chosen in the myddes. He was gerede alle in grene, alle with golde by-weuede, Embroddirde alle with besanttes and beralles full riche: His colere with calsydoynnes clustrede full thikke,

p° semys with saphirssett were full many,
With emeraudes and amatistes appon iche syde,
With full riche rubyes raylede by the hemmes;
p° price of that perry were worthe powndes full many.

His sadill was of sykamoure that he satt inn,
His bridell alle of brente golde with silke brayden raynes,
His [t]r[a]poure was of tartaryne, pat traylede to be erthe,
And he throly was threuen of thritty zere of elde,
And there-to zonge and zape, and Zouthe was his name;
135 And the semely[est] segge that I seghe euer.

II.

The seconde segge in his sete satte at his ese,
A renke alle in rosette pat rowmly was schapyn;
In a golyone of graye girde in the myddes,
And iche bagge in his bosome bettir than othere.

140 One his golde and his gude gretly he mousede,
His renttes and his reches rekened he full ofte,
OF mukkyng, of marlelyng, and mendynge of howses,
OF benes of his bondemen, of benefetis many,
OF presanttes of polayle, of pu[r]filis als,

145 OF purches of ploughe-londes, of parkes full faire,
OF profettis of his pastours, that his purse mendis,
OF stiewarde[s], of storrours, stirkes to bye,
OF clerkes of countours, his courtes to holde,
And alle his witt in this werlde was one his wele one:

150 Hym semyde, for to see to, of sexty 3ere elde,
And per-fore men in his marche Medill-elde hym callede.

III.

181.

THE thirde was a laythe lede lenyde one his syde, A beryne bownn alle in blake, with bedis in his hande; Croked and courbede, encrampeschett for elde;

- T55 Alle disfygured was his face, and fadit his hewe,
 His berde and browes were blanchede full whitte,
 And the hare one his hede hewede of the same,
 He was ballede and blynde and alle babirlippede,
 Totheles and tenefull, I tell 30we for sothe;
- 160 And euer he momelide and ment and mercy he askede, And cried kenely one Criste, and his crede sayde, With sawtries full sere tymes, to sayntes in heuen; Envyous and angrye, and Elde was his name. I helde hym be my hapynge a hundrethe zeris of age,
- Now hafe [I] rekkende 30w theire araye, redely the sothe,
 And also namede 30w thaire names naytly there-aftire,
 And now thaire carpynge I sall kythe, knowe it if 30we liste.

TV.

NOW this gome alle in grene so gayly attyrede,
This hathelle one this heghe horse, with hauke one his
fiste,

He was 30nge and 3ape and 3ernynge to armes, And pleynede hym one paramours and peteuosely syghede. He sett hym vp in his sadill and seyde† theis wordes: 'My lady, my leman, bat I hafe luffede euer,

175 My wele and my wirchip, in werlde where bou duellys, My playstere of paramours†, with pappis full swete, Alle my hope and my hele, myn herte es thyn ownn!

I by-hete the a heste, and heghely I a-vowe,
There schall no hode ne no hatt one my hede sitt,

180 Till pat I joyntly with a gesserante justede hafe one[s], And done dedis for thi loue, doghety in arms.'

v.

BOT then this gome alle in graye greued with this wordes,

And sayde, 'felowe, be my faythe bou fonnes full zerne, For alle fantome and foly that thou with faris.

185 Where es be londe and the lythe pat you arte lorde ouer?
For alle thy ryalle araye, renttis hase you none;
Ne for thi pompe and thi pride, penyes bot fewe:
For alle thi golde and thi gude gloes one thi clothes,
And you have caughte thi kaple, you cares for no fothire.

Thi brydell of brent golde wolde bullokes the gete;
The pryce of thi perrye wolde purches the londes;
And wonne, wy, in thi witt, for wele-neghe pou spilles.

VI.

THAN the gome alle in grene greued full sore,
195 And sayd, 'sir, be my soule, thi consell es feble.
Bot thi golde and thi gude thou hase no god ells;
For, be po lorde and the laye pat I leue inne,
And by the Gode that me gaffe goste and soule,
Me were leuere one this launde lengen a while,

200 Stoken in my stele-wede, one my stede bakke,
Harde haspede in my helme, and in my here-wedys,
With a grym grownden glayfe graythely in myn honde,
And see a kene knyghte come and cowpe with my-seluen,
pat I myghte halde pat I hafe highte and heghely avowede,

Than alle the golde and the gude that thoue gatt euer,
Than alle the londe and the lythe that thoue arte lorde ouer,

And ryde to a reuere redily there-aftir,
With haukes full hawtayne that heghe willen flye;

To lache oute thaire lessches and lowsen thaym sone,
And keppyn of thaire caprons, and casten fro honde,
And than the hawteste in haste hyghes to the towre,
With theire bellys so brighte blethely thay ryngen,

angelles.

Then the fawkoners full fersely to floodes pay hyen, To the reuere with thaire roddes to rere vp the fewles, Sowssches thaym full serely to seruen thaire hawkes. Than tercelettes full tayttely telys down stryken,

²²⁰ Laners and lanerettis lightten to thes endes,
Metyn with the maulerdes and many down striken;
Fawkons pay founden freely to lighte,
With hoo and howghe to the heron pay hitten hym full ofte,
Buffetyn hym, betyn hym, and brynges hym to sege,

Then fawkoners full fersely founden pam aftire,
To helpen thaire hawkes thay hyen thaym full zerne,
For the bitt of his bill bitterly he strikes.

They knelyn down one theire knees and krepyn full lowe.

230 Wynnen to his wynges and wrythen thaym to-gedire,
Brosten the bones and brekyn thaym in sondire,
Puttis owte with a penn po [pyth] one his gloue,
And quo[p]es thaym to the querrye that quelled hym to po

He quysses thaym and quotes thaym, quyppeys full lowde, 235 Cheres [tha]ym full chefely ecchekkes to leue;

Than henntis thaym one honde and hodes thaym ther-aftire,
Cowples vp theire cowers thaire caprons to holde,
Lowppes in thaire lesses thorowe vertwells of siluere;

pan he laches to his luyre, and lokes to his horse,

240 And lepis vpe one the lefte syde, als polaghe askes.

Portours full pristly putten vpe the fowlis,

And taryen for theire tercelettis pat tenyn thaym full ofte,

For some chosen to polecheke, poghe some chefe bettire;

Spanyells full spedily pay spryngen abowte,

And than kayre to the courte that I come fro,
With ladys full louely to lappyn in myn armes,
And clyp thaym and kysse thaym and comforthe myn hert;
And than with damesels dere to dawnsen in thaire chambirs;

250 Riche Romance to rede, and rekken the sothe
Of kempes and of conquerours, of kynges full noblee,
How tha[y] wirchipe and welthe wanne in thaire lyues;
With renkes in ryotte to reuelle in haulle,
With coundythes and carolles and companyes sere,

And this es life for to lede while I schalle lyfe here;
And thou with wandrynge and woo schalte wake for thi
gudes,

And be thou doluen and dede, thi dole schall be schorte, And he that thou leste luffes schall layke hym there-with, 260 And spend that thou† sparede, the deuyll spede hym ells!

Than this renke alle in rosett rothelede thies wordes: He sayde, 'thryfte and thou have threpid this thirtene wynter.

I seghe wele samples bene so the that sayde bene [ful] 3 ore: Fole es that with foles delys: flyte we no lengare!

VII.

THAN this beryn alle in blake bownnes hym to speke, And sayde, 'sirres, by my soule, sottes bene 3e bothe.

Bot will 3e hendely me herken ane hande-while, And I schalle stynte 3our stryffe and stillen 3our threpe. I sett ensample bi my-selfe, and sek[e] it no forthire:

- 270 While I was 30nge in my 30uthe and 3ape of my dedys, I was als euerrous in armes as ouper of 30ure-seluen, And as styffe in a stourre one my stede bake, And as gaye in my gere als any gome ells, And as lelly by-luffede with ladyse and maydens.
- 275 My likame was louely as lothe nowe to schewe,
 And as myche wirchip I wane i-wis as 3e bothen;
 And aftir irkede me with this, and ese was me leuere,
 Als man in his medill elde his makande wolde haue.
 Than I mukkede and marlede and made vp my howses,
- 280 And purcheste me ploughe-londes and pastures full noble;
 Gatte gude and golde full gaynly to honde;
 Reches and renttes were ryfe to my-seluen.
 Bot elde vndire-3ode me are I laste wiste,
 And alle disfegurede my face and fadide my hewe,
- And when he sotted my syghte, than sowed myn hert— Croked me, cowrbed me, encrampeschet myn hondes, pat I ne may hefe pam to my hede, ne noghte helpe my-seluen, Ne stale stonden one my fete, bot I my staffe haue.
- 290 Makes 30ure mirrours bi me, men, bi 30ure trouthe;
 This schadowe in my schewere schunte 3e no while.
 And now es dethe at my dore that I drede moste;
 I ne wot wiche daye, ne when, ne whate tyme he comes,
 Ne whedir-wardes, ne whare, ne whatte to do aftire;
- 295 But many modyere than I, men one this molde,
 Hafe passed the pase þat I schall passe sone;
 And I schall neuen 30w the names of† nyne of the beste
 pat euer wy in this werlde wiste appon erthe,
 pat were conquerours full kene and kiddeste of ober.

VIII.

THE firste was sir Ector, and aldeste of tyme,
When Troygens of Troye were tried to fighte
With Menylawse po mody kynge and men out of Grece,
pat paire cite assegede and sayled it full zerne,
For Elayne his ownn quene that there-inn was halden,

305 pat Paresche the proude knyghte paramours louede.
Sir Ectore was euerous, als the storye telles,
And als clerkes in the cronycle cownten posothe,
Nowmbron thaym to [nynety] and ix mo by tale
Of kynges with crounes he killede with his handes,

310 And full fele oper folke, als ferly were ellis.

Then Achilles his adversarye vndide with his werkes,
With wyles, and no wirchipe, woundede hym to dethe,
Als he tentid to a tulke pat he tuke of were,
And he was slayne for that slaughte sleghely per-aftir,

With the wyles of a woman, as he had wroghte by-fore.

Than Menylawse pe mody kynge hade myrthe at his hert,
pat Ectore hys enymy siche auntoure hade fallen,
And with the Gregeis of Grece he girde ouer the walles,
pe prowde paleys dide he pulle down to pe erthe,

320 pat was rialeste of araye and rycheste vndir† heuen;
And pen p° Trogens of Troye teneden full sore,
And semble[d]† paym full s[ar]rely, and sadly pay foughten;
Bot the lure at the laste lighte appon Troye;
For there sir Priamus the prynce put was to dethe,

325 And Pantasilia þe [prowde] quene paste hym by-fore.
Sir Troylus, a trewe knyghte, þat tristyly hade foghten,
Neptolemus, a noble knyghte, at nede þat wolde noghte fayle,
Palamedes, a prise knyghte, and preued in armes,
Vlixes and Ercules þat† euerrous were bothe,

330 And oper fele of pat ferde fared of the same, As Dittes and Dares demed[e]n togedir.

IX.

AFTIR this sir Alysaunder alle be worlde wanne, A Bothe the see and the sonde and the sadde erthe, pe iles of the oryent to Ercules boundes, 335 Ther Ely and Ennoke euer hafe bene sythen, And to the come of Antecriste vnclosede be pay neuer; And conquered Calcas knyghtly ther-aftire, Ther jentille Jazon be [Gr]ewe wane be flese of golde. Then grathede he hym to Gadres the gates full righte, 340 And there sir G[adyfer]e pe gude the G[a]derayns assemblet, And rode oute full ryally to rescowe the praye; And pan Emenyduse hym mete, and made hym full tame, And girdes Gadyfere to the grounde, gronande full sore, And there that doughty was dede, and mekill dole makede. 345 Then Alixander the emperour, pat athell kyng hym-seluen, Arayed hym for to ryde with the renkes pat he hade: Ther was the mody Meneduse, a mane of Artage, He was duke of pat douth and a dussypere; Sir Filot and sir Florydase, full ferse men of armes; 350 Sir Clyton and sir Caulus, knyghtis full noble; And sir Garsyene the gaye, a gude man of armes; And sir Lyncamoure thaym ledys with a lighte will. And than sir Cassamus thaym kepide, and the kyng prayede To fare in-to Fesome his frendis to helpe; 355 For one Carrus the kynge was comen owte of Inde, And hade Fozome affrayede and Fozayne asegede For dame Fozonase the faire that he of lufe by-soughte. The kynge agreed hym to goo and graythed him sone, In mendys of Amenyduse pat he hade mys-done.

360 Then ferde he to-warde Facron, and by the flode abydes,
And there he tighte vp his tentis and taried there a while.
There knyghtis full kenely caughten theire leue
To fare in-to Fozayne dame Fozonase to see,

And Idores and Edease, alle by-dene;

365 And there sir Porus and his prynces to the poo avowede; Was neuer speche by-fore spoken sped bettir aftir, For als pay demden too doo, thay deden full even. For there sir Porus the prynce in-to the prese thrynges, And bare the batelle one bake, and abashede thaym swythe,

370 And than the bolde Bawderayne bowes to the kyng,

And brayde owte the brighte brande owt of the kynges hande,

And Florydase full freschely foundes hym aftir, And hent the helme of his hede and the halse crakede.

Than sir Gadefere, the gude, gripis his axe,

375 And in-to the Indyans ofte auntirs hym sone, And thaire stiffe standerte to stikkes he hewes. And than sir Cassamus, the kene, Carrus releues; When he was fallen appon fote he fet hym his stede; And aftir that sir Cassamus sir Carus he drepitt,

380 And for pat poynte sir Porus perset hym to dethe; And than the Indyans ofte vttire bam droghen, And fledden faste of the felde and Alexandere suede. When pay were skaterede and skayled and skyftede in sondere,

Alyxandere, oure athell kyng, ames hym to lenge,

385 And fares in-to Fozayne, festes to make,

And weddis wy vn-to wy that wilnede to-gedire. Sir Porus, the pryce knyghte, moste praysed of othere, Fonge Fozonase to fere, and fayne were thay bothe; The bolde Bawderayne of Baderose, sir Cassayle hym-seluen,

390 Bele Edyas the faire birde, bade he no nober; And sir Betys, the beryne, the beste of his tyme, Idores, his awnn lufe, aughte he hym-seluen. Then iche lede hade the loue that he hade longe zernede, Sir Alixander, oure emperour, ames hym to ryde,

395 And bewes to-wardes Babyloyne, with the beryns but were leuede,

By-cause of dame Cand[ac]e that comforthed hym moste; And that cite he by-segede, and assayllede it aftire, While hym the 3atis were 3ete, and 3olden the keyes; And there that pereles prynce was puysonede to dede;

And there that pereies prynce was physonede to dede;

400 pare he was dede of a drynke, as dole es to here,

That the curssede Cassander in a cowpe hym broghte.

He conquered with conqueste kyngdomes twelue,

And dalte thaym to his dussypers when he the dethe

tholede,

And thus the worthieste of this werlde wente to his ende.

X

THANE sir Sezere hym-seluen, that Julyus was hatten,
Alle Inglande he aughte at his awnn will,
When the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede.
The trewe toure of Londone in his tyme he makede,
And craftely the condithe he compaste there aftire,
And then he droghe hym to Dovire, and duellyde there a
while.

And closede ther a castelle with cornells full heghe; Warnestorede it full wiesely, als witnesses the sothe, For there es hony in that holde holden sythen his tyme. Than rode he in to Romayne, and rawns[on]ede it sone;

- 415 And Cassabalount po kynge conquerede there-aftire;
 Then graythed he hym in-to Grece, and gete [it] hym be-lyue;
 The semely cite Alexaunder seside he ther-aftire,
 Affrike and Arraby and Egipt the noble;
 Surry and Sessoyne sessede he to-gedir,
- With alle the iles of the see appon iche a syde.

 Thies thre were paynymes full priste, and passed alle othere.

XI.

OF thre Jewes full gentill jugge[n] we aftir, In the Olde Testament as the storye tellis, In a booke of the Bible that breues of kynges, 425 And renkes pat rede kane Regum it callen. The firste was gentill Josue pat was a Jewe noble, Was heryet for his holynes in-to heuen-riche. When Pharaoo had flayede the folkes of Israelle, Thay ranne into the Rede See for radde of hym-seluen; 430 And than Josue the Jewe, Jhesus he prayed That the peple myghte passe vnpereschede that tyme; And than the see sett vp appon sydes twayne, In manere of a mode walle that made were with hondes, And thay soughten ouer the see, sownnde, alle to-gedir; 435 And Pharaoo full fersely-folowede thaym aftire, And efte Josue po Jewe Jhesus he prayede, And the see sattillede agayne and sanke thaym there-inn,-A soppe for the Sathanas, vnsele haue theire bones! And aftire Josue pe Jewe full gentilly hym bere, 440 And conquerede kynges and kyngdomes twelue, And was a conqueroure full kene and moste kyd in his tyme.

XII.

THAN Dauid the doughty, thurghe D[r]ightyn[es] sonde,
Was caughte from kepyng of schepe, & a kyng made.
The grete grym Golyas he to grounde broghte,

445 And sloughe hym with his slynge & with no sleghte ells.
The stone thurghe his stele helme stang† into his brayne,
And he was dede of that dynt: the deuyll hafe that reche!
And than was Dauid full dere to Drightyn hym-seluen,
And was a prophete of pryse, and praysed full ofte;

450 Bot 3it greued he his God gretely ther-aftire,
For Vrye his awnn knyghte in aventure he wysede,

There he was dede at that dede, as dole es to here; For Bersabee his awnn birde was alle pat bale rerede.

XIII.

THE gentill Judas Machabee was a Jewe kene,

And there-to worthy in were, and wyse of his dedis:

Antiochus and Appolyne, aythere he drepide:

And Nychanore, anober kynge, full naytly there-aftire:

And was a conquerour kydde, and knawen with the beste.

Thies thre were Jewes full joly and justers full noble,

460 That full loughe haue bene layde [of] full longe tyme:

Of siche doughety doers [deme] what es worthen.

XIV. OF the thre Cristen to carpe couthely there-aftir, pat were conquerours full kene and kyngdomes wonnen: Areste was sir Arthure, and eldeste of tyme, 465 For alle Inglande he aughte at his awnn will, And was kynge of this kythe, and the crowne hade. His courte was at Carlele comonly holden, With renkes full ryalle of his rownnde table. pat Merlyn with his maystries made in his tyme. And sett the sege perilous so semely one highte, There no segge scholde sitt bot hym scholde schame tyde, Owthir dethe with-inn the thirde daye demed to hym-seluen. Bot sir Galade the gude that the gree wanne. There was sir Launcelot de Lake full lusty in armes. A75 And sir Gawayne the gude that neuer gome harmede, Sir Askanore, sir Ewayne, sir Errake fytz Lake, And sir Kay the kene and kyd of his dedis, Sir Perceualle de Galeys pat preued had bene ofte, Mordrede and Bedwere, men of mekyll myghte, 480 And othere fele of that ferde, folke of the beste.

Then [R]oystone be riche kyng, full rakill of his werkes, He made a blyot† to his bride of the berdes of kynges, And aughtilde sir Arthures berde one scholde be; Bot Arthure, oure athell kynge, anober he thynkes,

485 And faughte with hym in the felde till he was fey worthen.

And pan sir Arthure, oure [athell] kyng, ames hym to ryde:

Vppon Sayn Michaells mounte meruaylles he wroghte,

There a dragone he dreped, pat drede was full sore;

And than he sayled ouer the see into sere londes,

490 Whils alle the beryns of Bretayne bewede hym to fote.

Gascoyne and Gyane gatt he there-aftir,

And conquered kyngdomes and contrees full fele.

Than ames he in-to Inglonde into his awnn kythe:

The gates to-wardes Glassthenbery full graythely he rydes;

And ther sir Mordrede hym mett by a more syde,
And faughte with hym in the felde to alle were fey worthen,
Bot Arthur oure athell kyng, and [Ewan] his knyghte.
And when the felde was flowen and fey bot thaym-seluen,
Than Arthure sir [Ewan] athes, by his trouthe,

And whatt selcouthes he see, the sothe scholde he telle.

And [Ewan] swith to the swerde, and swange it in the mere,

And ane hande by the hiltys hastely it grippes,

And brawndeschet that brighte swerde, and bere it a-waye:

To his lorde, there he hym lefte, and lokes abowte,
And he ne wiste in alle this werlde where he was by-comen:
And then he hyghes hym in haste, and hedis to the mere,
And seghe a bote from the banke and beryns there-inn.

There-inn was sir Arthure and othere of his ferys,
And also Morgn la faye that myche couthe of sleghte,
And there ayther segge seghe other laste, for sawe he hym
no more.

XV

SIR Godfraye de Bolenn siche grace of God hade

pat alle Romanye he rode and rawnnsunte it sone;

515 pe Amorelle of Antyoche aftire he drepit,

pat was called Corborant, kiluarde of dedis;

And aftir he was callede kynge, and the crownn hade

Of Jer[u]salem and of the Jewes gentill to-gedir,

And with the wirchipe of this werlde he went to his ende.

XVI.

- THAN was sir Cherlemayne chosen chefe kynge of Fraunce, With his doghty doussypers, to do als hym lykede; Sir Rowlande the riche and Duke Raynere of Jene, Olyuer and Aubrye and Ogere Deauneys, And sir Naymes at the nede that neuer wolde fayle,
- 525 Turpyn and Terry, two full tryed lordes,
 And sir Sampsone hym-selfe of the Mounte Ryalle,
 Sir Berarde de Moundres, a bolde beryn in armes,
 And gud sir Gy de Burgoyne, full gracyous of dedis;
 The katur fitz Emowntez were kydde k[nyght]es alle,
- 530 And oper moo than I may myne or any man elles.

 And then sir Cherlles be chefe ches for to ryde,

 And paste to-wardes Polborne to prouen his strenghte:

 Salamadyne the Sowdane he sloghe with his handis,

 And bat [cite] he by-segede, and saylede it full ofte,
- 535 While hym his 3ernynge was 3ett and the 3ates opynede; And Witthyne thaire waryed kynge wolde nott abyde, Bot soghte into Sessoyne socoure hym to gete, And Cherlemayne, oure chefe kynge, cheses in-to the burgh, And dame Naoles anone he name to hym-seluen,
- 540 And maried hir to Maundevyle pat scho hade myche louede, And spedd hym into hethyn Spayne spedely there-aftire, And fittilled† hym by Flagott faire for to loge.

and Ac free from on hafte get tolowed pomor. And Be to boto for po ant a beend & pomid. Ther yn hoar of Arthur pop of the feele. Rallo moveran of landar part moch conde of fight. that faying for the De for for the from no more. 3) no toofun de zolom fraj gre of god ge gad. pat all common he vanies of common to the The Amount of Antioth after go Dreport! # fat how called torbolamit which & of soly. And after the hour called ting a trolon Bad. Offilm a Juny gontily to there. Ind to Avortino of por About & be bent to fir endo. hen for agailemann have chaffor bring of framos.) hot gur somether duche poure to do as from little In Holand no with Sheep & Vaner po fann. Olober & Indien poquers 193 Jenni. and f Mas est wanted in nebro hold fante. Enopon a terop the ful took Enought. Ind fo Samfon Gym Othern of no mother foralt. Sin Berons De ambrer à bold berns pa demois. and gode f tim of known full descious of Jest. and Extrefiz Emounter hose bed Empfit att. Ind other mo pan I man mone or any man off. And fing Egholat pe chiff chife for to bido. Ind pull toband finant to fibb fins thouth.



There Olyuer the euerous aunterde hym-seluen,

And faughte with sir Ferambrace, and fonge hym one were,

545 And than they fologhed hym in a fonte, and Florence hym callede:

And than moued he hym to Mawltryple sir [Merchel] to seche.

And that Emperour at Egremorte aftir he takes,

And wolde hafe made sir [Merchel] a man of oure faythe,

And garte feche forthe a founte byfore this eghne;

550 And he dispysede it and spitte and spournede it to the erthe. And one swyftely with a swerde swapped of his hede; And dame Floripe be faire was [fologhed] there-aftire,

And kende thaym to the corownne bat Criste had one hede,

And the nayles, anone, nayttly there-aftire,

555 When he with passyoun and pyne was [put] one the rode. And than those relikes so riche redely he takes,

And at Sayne Denys he paym dide, and duellyd there for euer.

And than bodworde vnto [Balame] full boldly he sendys, And bade hym Cristyne by-come and one Criste leue,

560 Or he scholde bette down his b[urgh] and brenn hym there-inn:

And garte Genyone goo that erande that greuede thaym alle Than rode he to Rowncyuale, bat rewed hym aftire, There sir Rowlande, the ryche Duke, refte was his lyfe;

And Olyuer, his awnn fere, that ay had bene trewe,

565 And sir Turpyn the trewe, that full triste was at nede, And full fele othir folke, als ferly were elles. Then suede he the Sarazenes seuen zere and more, And the Sowdane at Saragose full sothely he fyndis,

And there he bett down be burghe, and sir [Balame] he tuke,

570 And that day he dide [hym] to the dethe, als he had wele sernede.

Bot by than his wyes were wery, and woundede full many, And he fared into France to fongen thaire riste, And neghede to-warde Nerbone that noyede thaym full sore, And pat cite he asseggede appone sere halfues,

575 While hym the 3ates were 3ette and 3olden the keyes,
And Emorye made Emperour, even at that tyme,
To [haue] and to holde it to hym and† his ayers.
And then thay ferden in-to Fraunce to fongen thaire ese,
And at Sayn Denys he dyede, at his dayes tyme.

580 Now hafe I neuened 30w the names of nyne of po beste pat euer were in this werlde wiste appon erthe,
And the doghtyeste of dedis in their dayes tyme,
Bot doghetynes, when dede comes, ne dare noghte habyde.

XVII.

OF wyghes pat were wyseste will 3e now here,
And I schall schortly 3ow schewe and schutt me ful sone.
Arestotle he was arste in Alexander tyme,
And was a fyne philozophire and a fynour noble,
[H]e g[er]te Alexander to graythe and gete golde when hym liste,

And multiplye metalles with mercurye watirs,
590 And with his ewe ardaunt and arsneke pouders,
With salpetir and sal-jeme and siche many othire,
And menge his metalles and make fyne siluere,
And was a [b]launchere of the best thurgh blaste of his fyre.
Then Virgill, thurgh his vertus, ver[r]ayle he maket
595 Bodyes of brighte brasse full boldely to speke,

To telle whate be-tydde had, and whate be-tyde scholde, When Dioclesyane was dighte to be dere emperour; Of Rome and of Romanye the rygalte he hade.

XVIII.

THAN sir Salomon hym-selfe sett hym by hy[s] one;
His Bookes in the Bible bothe bene to-gedirs.

That one of wisdome and of witte wondirfully teches;
His sampills and his sawes bene sett in the toper;
And he was the wyseste in witt that euer wonnede in erthe;
And his techynges will bene trowde whills powerlde standes,
605 Bothe with kynges and knyghtis and kaysers ther-inn.

XIX.

MERLYN was a meruayllous man, and made many thynges,

And naymely nygromancye nayttede he ofte, And graythe[d] Galyan a boure to [gete] hir per-in, That no wy scholde hir wielde ne wynne from hym-seluen. 610 Theis were the wyseste in the worlde of witt pat euer 3itt were,

Bot dethe wondes for no witt to wende were hym lykes.

XX.

NOW of the prowdeste in presse pat paramoures loueden I schalle titly 30w telle, and tary 30w no lengere. Amadase and Edoyne, in erthe are thay bothe,

615 That in golde and in grene were gaye in thaire tyme;
And sir Sampsone hym-selfe, full sauage of his dedys,
And Dalyda his derelynge,† now dethe has pam bo[th]e.
Sir Ypomadonn de Poele, full priste in hi[s] armes,
po faire Fere de Calabre, now faren are they bothe.

620 Generides po gentill, full joly in his tyme,
And Clarionas pat was so clere, are [closede in] erthe.
Sir Eglamour of Artas, full euerous in armes,
And Cristabelle the clere maye es crept in hir graue;
And sir Tristrem the trewe, full triste of hym-seluen,

625 And Ysoute, his awnn lufe, in erthe are pay bothe.

Whare es now Dame Dido was qwene of Cartage?

Dame Cand[ac]e the comly,† quene of Babyloyne?

Penelopie that was price and pas[sid] alle othere,

And dame Gaynore the gaye, nowe grauen are thay bopen;

630 And othere moo than I may mene, or any man elles.

XXI.

SYTHEN doughtynes when dede comes ne dare noghte habyde,

Ne dethe wondes for no witt to wende where hym lykes, And thereto paramours and pride puttes he full lowe, Ne there es reches ne rent may rawnsone 30ur lyues,

- 635 Ne noghte es sekire to 3oure-selfe in certayne bot dethe, And he es so vncertayne that sodaynly he comes, Me thynke p^e wele of this werlde worthes to noghte. Ecclesiastes the clerke declares in his booke Vanitas vanitatum et omnia vanitas,
- 640 pat alle [es] vayne[st of] vanytes, and vanyte es alle;
 For-thi amendes 30ure mysse whills 3e are men here,
 Quia in inferno nulla est redempcio;
 For in helle es no helpe, I hete 30w for sothe;
 Als God in his gospelle graythely 30w teches,
- 645 Ite ostendite vos sacerdotibus,

 [G]o schryue 30w full schirle, and schewe 30w to prestis;

 Et ecce omnia munda sunt vobis,

And pat 3e wronge [haue] wroghte schall worthen full clene. Thou man in thi medill elde, hafe mynde whate I saye!

650 I am thi sire and thou my sone, the sothe for to telle,
And he the sone of thi-selfe, pat sittis one the stede,
For Elde es sire of Midill Elde, and Midill-elde of 3outhe:
And haues gud daye, for now I go; to graue moste me wende;
Dethe dynges one my dore, I dare no lengare byde.'

When I had lenged and layne a full longe while,
I herde a bogle one a bonke be blowen full lowde,
And I wakkened therwith and waytted me vmbe;
Than the sone was sett and syled full loughe;
And I founded appon fote and ferkede towarde townn.

660 And in the monethe of Maye thies mirthes me tydde,
Als I schurtted me in a schelfe in po schawes faire,
And belde me in the birches with bewes full smale,
And lugede me in the leues pat lighte were & grene:
There, dere Drightyne, this daye dele vs of thi blysse,
665 And Marie, pat es mylde qwene, amende vs of synn!

Amen Amen.

Thus endes THE THRE AGES.





'MS.' indicates a reference to MS. 31042, which is taken as the basis of the text; 'B.' refers to the fragmentary MS. 33994. Both the MSS. were printed in extenso in the editio princeps, Roxburghe Club, 1897, prepared by the present editor for the late Sir John Evans. The variant readings are limited to such as seem to be of any importance for the text; most of the unrecorded errors appear to be of no interest, save as illustrations of textual corruptions. 'K.' refers to the review of the book by the late Professor E. Kölbing, Englische Studien, xxv. 2 (Breslau, 1898); 'S.'= Studien über den Stabreim in der mittelenglischen Alliterationsdichtung von Karl Schumacher (Bonner Studien z. eng. Phil. vol. xi), 1914.

I. TEXTUAL NOTES

1 MS. monethes. 14 (?) threp[d]en. 31 MS. v fyve. 48 MS. mytid (= mytid = myntid). 69 MS. brayde his bowells. 70 MS. sisilte; S. slitte (cp. 1. 81). 72 (?) [at be] chefe; K. (who compares 'on be chefe of be cholle', Aunt. of Arth. 114). 84 MS. pawche. 105 MS. moten. 106 MS. hande-while. 113 MS. i-liche; S. egheliche (cp. l. 28). 132 MS. cropoure. 135 MS. semely. 144 MS. pufilis. 164 K. (?) hoping. 173 MS. seyden. 166 [I] omitted in MS. 176 MS. my lady with. 180 K. 'ones' for MS. onere. 232 MS. maryo; B. marow. 228 B. with be butte. 233 quotes; better perhaps B. whopis. 234 quysses; B. wharris. MS. quyppes, (?) and q. B. & whopes. 235 MS. cheresche hym; B. cheris bem. 238 Lowppes in : B. Lappis vp. 252 MS. thaire; B. bey. 243 chefe; B. chefe (= chese) to be. 260 MS. thou haste longe sparede; B bou spared. No space in MS. 263 B. omits well; MS. omits ful; B. ful. 268 B. omits And. 269 sekis; B. feche. 281 B. Igate. 283 B. vndur-yede; S. vnder-ede. 297 MS. ix nyne. 301 B. trochis. 300 K. areste, for MSS. firste. 308 MS. xix; B. nynety. 313 tulke: B. toure. 319 B. he pulled. 320 MS. the heuen; B. hevyn. 321 B. and to the troge of Troy he tendith for socour. 322 MS. semblen; B. semblid. MS. sorely; B. surely. 325 MS. be quene; so B. 327 B. Septelamus a noble knyght and proued yn armes; S., N. a noble knyght þat neuer wolde fayle (cp. 1. 327). 329 MS. pat full; B. omits full. 331 MS. and demedon; B. demyn. 338 Jazon; B. Josue; MS. jewe.

340 MS. godfraye; so B. MS. goderayns; B. his gedring.

354 B. frende.

364 B. alle the bes.

348 B. pat duche.

357 S. bat he fayne wolde loue.

TEXTUAL NOTES

371 S. the beryns hande. 389 B. Cassabul. 365 B. peris. 396 MS. Candore; B. Cadace. 412 B. Warme-storid. 414 MS. rawnsede; B. raunsomed. 421 B. prest. 422 MS. jugge; B. jugges were aftur. 428 B. folk. 429 Thay; B. bt. 438 B. for Sathanas. 442 MS. deightyn; B. drighten found. 446 MS. stongen; B. the stones . . . stang. 451 B. in awnter he vised. 460 MS. sythen gane full; B. of ful. 464 S. aldeste; B. best yn his. 461 Not in B.: MS. looke. 471 B. hym schame; (?) schame for sorwe; cp. S. p. 95. 481 MS. Boystone. 482 MS. Ablyot. 486 K. [athell], not in MSS. (cp. 1. 497). 497, 499, 505 MS. Wawayne; B. Ewan. 498 felde: B. folk; the latter reading is preferred by K. 502 MS. sir Wawayne swith: B. Ewan start swith. 518 MS. Jerasalem. 525 B. knyghtes. 529 MS. kynges. 534 MS. pat he; B. pat Cite he. 542 MS. ffittilled. 546 MS. Balame; B. Marchel. 548 MS. Balame; B. marcel. 549 MS. with his; B. his. 552 MS. cristened; B. halowd. 555 MS. naylede; B. was on be rode naylid. 558 MS. vnto Merchill; B. Balaam. 560 MS. borowes; B. burgh. 569 MS. sir Merchill; B. balam. 570 B. That day he dud hym to deed. S. (?) duly for wele. 577 MS. kepe it; B. haue & hald; MS. to hym and to; B. to hym and his. 580 MS. ix nyne. 588 MS. The grete. 592 B. And myngyng his materalse. 593 MS. plaunchere; B. blawcher. 594 MS. veruayle; B veryall 599 MS. hym one; B. his one. 604 Not in B. 608 MS. graythen; B. grathid. MS. kepe; B. gete. 617 MS. and now dethe. MS. boghte; B. now deth hath bem bothe. 618 MS. hir; B. his. 621 are bothe nowe bot erthe; so B. 626 K. (?) 'duchesse', for 'qwene'; the line is omitted in B. 627 MS. Candore; so B. MS. was called quene; so B. 628 MS. pasten; B. passid. 635 B. ne certayne. 640 MS. vayne and; so B. 646 MS. To; B. Go. 648 MS. And 3e pat wronge wroghte; B. & S. pat ye haue wrong wroght shall worth. 658 B. salid.

II. EXPLANATORY AND ILLUSTRATIVE

NOTES

2-7. The conventional opening of the poem is suggestive of the Prologue of *Piers the Plowman*.

9-16. Cp. Le Roman de la Rose, 11, 55-80.

14. Cp. The throstills full throly they threpen to-gedire; Winnere and Wastoure, 37.

21-99. The deer-stalking in this poem supplements the description of the hunting of the deer, the boar, and the fox, in Gawain and the Green Knight; cp. this passage with ll. 1328-56.

27. (?) Like thy foot was each antler, 'frayed' (i.e. rubbed) in the thickets; for 'feetur' cp. 'affeted', in the sense of 'well proportioned',

Master of the Game, ed. Baillie-Grohman, 1914.

35. when the wynde faylede, refers to the deer getting to windward of the hunter, and smelling him; when there was no wind, the stag had to watch all round.

44. 'drew up my tiller' (i.e. handle of a cross-bow), and bent the

cross-bow, viz. by putting the string into a notch.

53. I hallede to the hokes, i.e. I hauled to, pulled up, the hook or trigger beneath the crossbow. 'Hoke' should probably be read for 'hokes'.

67. tached, fastened; probably the stag's head was pushed back,

so that his throat was upward, and his horns down.

80. Cp. '& be corbeles fee thay kest in a greue,' Gawain, 1355.

91. pe fete of the fourche I feste thurgh the sydis, i.e. 'the feet of the haunch I fastened through the sides'. Perhaps this refers to pushing one foot through the side of the other foot. This gives something to hold by. He then heaved it, by putting his hand through

the loop.

94. fostere of the fee; i.e. (probably) 'foster in fee'; 'forester, a sworn officer of the Forest, appointed by the King's Letters Patent to walk the Forest, watching both the Vert and the Venison, attaching and presenting all Trespassers against them, within their own Bailiwick or Walk. . . And though these Letters Patent are ordinarily granted but quamdiu se bene gesserint, yet they are granted to some and their Heirs, who are hereby called Foresters, or Foresters in Fee'. Blount, Law Dictionary, 1717. An interesting illustration of the tomb of 'a foster of fee' is given in Sir H. Dryden's Art of Hunting, by William Twici, 1843.

98. how it cheuede, i.e. how things went.

189. 'If you have caught your horse, you are anxious about no waggon-load', i.e. you only care to have a horse to ride, not for

agriculture; cp. Winnere and Wastoure, 11. 239-40.

213. And than the hawteste in haste hyghes to the towre: 'to the towre,' a technical term of falconry; Fr. tour, a turn, wheel, flight; cp. 'Shee (the hobby) is of the number of those Hawkes that are hie flying & towre Hawks,' Turberville, Booke of Falconrie, p. 53, ed. 1611. The word was probably confused with the ordinary 'tower'; cp. 'A falcon towering in her pride of place'; Macbeth, II. iv. 12, 13.

237. cowers (B. cours); the word is perhaps an Anglicized form of Fr. cuir, familiar to readers of Middle English in the compound cuir bouilli (i.e. boiled leather; leather soaked in hot water, and when soft, moulded or pressed into any required form), coer-buille, gwyrbolle, curbulze, etc. No instance is recorded in N. E. D. of the present word, which seems to signify leather braces for keeping on the hood. In modern Falconry 'to couple up the cowers' is 'to draw the hood', i.e. 'to draw the braces which open and close the bood behind'.

238. Lowppes in their lesses thorowe vertwells of siluere, i.e. varvels, or flat rings of silver, with the owner's name engraved thereon. These rings were permanently attached to the end of the jesses, and through these one end of the leash was passed, the other end being prevented from going through by a leather button. (Cp. Harting's Bibliotheca Accipitraria, pp. xx, xxi, et passim.) 'Vertwells'

probably for some word with '1', '(?)' 'lainers'.

262. 'this thirtene wynter', i.e. a dozen years and more, since he was about seventeen, cp. 1. 133; for a similar use of 'thirtene', cp. 'threppede thorowe be thykkys thryttene sythis', Morte Arthure,

2216.

271. euerrous; this epithet occurs five times in the poem, and reminds one of 'yeuer, yeuernes, yeuerus, zyueris, zyuerus, yeverly', in the Alliterative Troy Book. The two forms are both, I think, to be referred to OE. gifre; cp. ziuernesse, Old Eng. Misc. 'Every' and 'yevery' are found as variants in Scottish dialects; Dr. Wright (under 'aiverie' in E.D.D.) derives from 'AF. aveir Lat. habere, +y'; S. proposes to explain 'euerrous' as from the same alleged French source +ous. If, as I maintain, 'euerrous' and 'generous' are identical, they serve to differentiate the two poems in a striking manner.

300-31. The source of this account of Hector seems to have been Guido de Colonna's Hystoria Troiana; 'Dittes and Dares' (l. 331) is from Guido's prologue; cp. Allit. Troy Book (E. E. T. S.); Lydgate's Troy Book (E. E. T. S.); The Seege of Troye, ed. C. H. A. Wager, 1899.

332-404. Our author's main source for his account of Alexander was evidently the 'chanson de geste' called Vœux du Paon, by Jacques de Longuyon of Lorraine, who wrote it for Thibaut II, Duke of Lorraine (1304-12). In this poem we find the earliest enumeration of the Nine Worthies (vide Preface). A Scottish version of the poem, The Buik of the most noble & vailzand conquerour Alexander the Great, was composed in 1438, printed by Alexander Arbuthnet at Edinburgh in 1580, and

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reprinted for the Bannatyne Club in 1831 (cp. Weber's Metrical Romances, vol. i, Appendix; Ward's Catalogue of Manuscript Romances, vol. i; A. Herrmann, Ueber das Schottische Alexanderbuch, 1893).

The popularity of the stories of Alexander is referred to by Chaucer

in his 'littel tragedy' of Alexander, in The Monkes Tale.

334. be iles of the oryent to Ercules boundes: cp. Allit. Troy Book, Il. 310-15; Lydgate's Troy Book, Il. 600-4, 610-11.

335-6. Ther Ely and Ennoke euer hafe bene sythen.

And to the come of Antecriste vnclosede be pay neuer.' The text represents the author's words; the substitution of 'Criste' in B. for 'Antecriste' is due to a scribe's attempt to improve the original. Ely (i.e. Elijah) and Ennoke play an important part in the Antichrist legend, and many allusions to them occur in early literature; e.g. 'Quis pugnaturus est in consummacione seculi cum Anticristo? Enoch et Elias' (Adrian and Epictetus, v. Kemble's Salomon and Saturn, p. 215). Cp. W. Bousset, Der Antichrist in der Ueberlieferung des Judenthums, des neuen Testaments u. der alten Kirche

(Göttingen, 1895).

Elijah and Enoch figure in the Ethiopic version of the Alexander story (cp. Dr. Budge's translations of the Syriac and Ethiopic texts); but they are not found in the ordinary Pseudo-Callisthenes. The word 'vnclosede' suggests that our author has confused Elijah and Enoch with two other important and better-known personages of the Antichrist drama, who figure most prominently in the romances of Alexander, viz. Gog and Magog, whose mention in Ezekiel is probably answerable for the traditions concerning them to be found in the East and West. Already in the Koran it is told how Dhu'lkarnein (i.e. Alexander the Great) shut them up behind inaccessible mountains, and built the Caucasian wall which the giants could neither scale nor undermine (v. chap. xviii); cp. Mandeville's Travels.

337-8. And conquered Calcas knyghtly ther-aftire,

Ther jentille Jazon be [Gr]ewe (MS. Jewe) wane be flese of golde;

[B. 'There jentill Josue be Jewe wan be slevis of gold.'] I am inclined to think that 'Jewe' of the MSS. is a scribal error for 'Grewe' (i.e. Greek); the emendation relieves the author of a gross error, and at the same time restores the alliterative effect to the line.

I no longer suggest that our author may have read a version of the story in which Jason (or Joshua), and not (as in Josephus) Jaddus or Jaddua, was the name of the high-priest of Jerusalem who received Alexander the Great with so much honour, and confused him with Jason who won the Golden Fleece at Colchis.

347. the mody Meneduse, a mane of Artage: probably 'Emenidus of Arcadia' (in the Scottish version 'de Archarde'), the slaver of

Gadifer the elder, referred to previously, l. 342.

355. one Carrus the kynge was comen owte of Inde, i.e. 'Clar-

vus li yndois' of the French romance.

356. Fozome, i.e. 'Fezome', or 'Fezonas', the sister of Gadifer's

sons, Gadifer the younger and Betis (in the next line 'Fozonase' in A., 'ffezonas' in B.). Their town was 'Phezon' (or 'Epheson'), here 'Fozoyne': 'Fesome,' 354.

360. Facron (?) = 'Phuron' (as in the Vœux du Paon).

364. Idores and Edease, i.e. 'Edée et Ydorus filles Antigonier.'

365. And there sir Porus and his prynces to the poo avowede, i.e. made their vows upon the peacock, which Porrus had shot; and Cassamus called upon the knights to make their vows when it was served up at table. (This forms the subject of Part II of Vœux du Paon; Part III deals with the accomplishment of the vows.)

370. the bolde Bawderayne, i.e. 'Cassiel li baudrains,' king of

Bauderis or Media.

377. sir Cassamus, the kene, Carrus releues: 'Carus' (as in ll. 355, 379) instead of 'Clarus'; Cassamus swore that if the Greeks won the battle, and he saw Clarus on foot and at disadvantage, he would relieve and remount him for the sake of Porrus, his son.

389. The bolde Bawderayne of Baderose, sir Cassayle hymseluen: Cassiel is always referred to in the romance as 'li baudrains' or 'the baderane', i.e. a person of Baderis; evidently the origin of the name was lost sight of; hence 'the Bawderayne of Baderose' (i.e.

Baderis); cp. note, 1. 370.

405-20. Thane sir Sezere hym-seluen that Julyus was hatten, etc. Compared with the account of Julius Caesar given in the Vœux du Paon, these lines are noteworthy for the prominence they give to Caesar's connexion with Britain, and the traditions relating to his foundation of the Tower of London and Dover Castle. The reference to the former tradition is, as Koelbing pointed out, found in the oldest MS. of the metrical Chronicle of England (c. 1324); cp. Stern-

berg, Eng. Stud. xviii.

407. When the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede, i.e. when the Brut, or Chronicle of British history, in its book called England 'Britain'. 'Bruyte' = a chronicle of British history from the mythical Brutus downwards, and referred originally to such works as Geoffrey of Monmouth's Brut, Le Roman de Brut of Wace, or Layamon's Brut. According to Mr. Gwenogvryn Evans (Academy, No. 1035, p. 233), the transferred sense of Latin Brutus, French and Welsh Brut = historia, chronica, arose towards the end of the twelfth century. The words 'when the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede' look like a mere amplification of the French original of the words 'all that was callit Bertane than' (Væux du Paon), and probably do not refer directly to Layamon's Brut, though a full account of Caesar's defeat of Cassibelan is to be found there; cp. also Ueber eine versificirte mittelenglische Chronik, R. Sternberg, Englische Studien, xviii, pp. 375-6.

413. there es hony in that holde holden sythen his tyme. The following passage in Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent* throws light on the otherwise obscure meaning of the line: 'The Castle at Dover (say Lydgate and Rosse) was first builded by Julius Cæsar, the Romane

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Emperour, in memorie of whome they of the Castell kept till this day certene vessels of old wine and salts, which they affirm to be the remaine of such provision as he brought unto it. As touching the which (if they be naturall and not sophisticate) I suppose them more likely to have been of that store which Hubert de Burgh laid in there.'

423-5. Our author has not improved on his original in amplifying the simple reference to 'the Old Testament'.

The writer certainly did not read of Joshua and Judas Maccabeus in 'Regum', though the statement was true as far as David is concerned, for 1 and 2 Samuel were formerly called 1 and 2 Kings (cp.

Piers Plowman, B. iii. 257).

426-41. The firste was gentill Josue pat was a Jewe noble, etc. The crossing of the Jordan is curiously blended with the crossing of the Red Sea, and to Joshua is assigned the rôle of Moses. The Hebrew Joshua is the same as the Greek Jesus, and Joshua is called Jesus in Asta vii. 45, Hebrews iv. 8. Joshua, the Leader of the Israelites to the promised land, was taken to be a type of Jesus the Leader of the faithful to the promised salvation:—

'Io vidi per la croce un lume tratto del nomar Josuè, com' ei si feo,

nè mi fu noto il dir prima che'l fatto.'

Paradiso, xviii, ll. 37-9.

442-53. Than Dauid the doughty, thurghe D[r]ightyn[es] sonde, etc. Our author adds to the few lines in the Vœux du Paon a reference to the story of David's treachery towards Uriah, as a sort of protest to the unqualified praise there given; cp. 'he was ouer all sa wele doand' (The Avowis of Alexander).

444. Golyas, the regular mediaeval form of the Philistine's name, hence the buffoon Bishop Golias of the 'Apocalypsis Golia' (whence E. goliardeys; Fr. goliardois; Lat. goliardus, goliardensis, etc.).

451. For Vrye his awnn knyghte in aventure he wysede. The

present lines recall Langland's striking reference:
'Al-so Marie Magdelene ho myghte do worsse
As in lykynge of lecherye no lyf denyede?
And Dauid the douhty that deuynede how Vrye
Mighte slilokeste be slayn and sente hym to werre
Leelliche as by hus lok with a lettere of gyle...

Now beeth these seintes, as men seyen and souereynes in heuene; (c. xii. 263-9).

453. For Bersabee his awnn birde: the ordinary form of the name in Middle English; cp. Wyclif's Bible, 2 Kings (= 2 Sam. A. V.) xi. 3: 'Than Dauid sente, and aserchede, what was the womman; and it is toold to hym, that she was Bersabee, the dougter of Elyam, the wijf of Vrye Ethei.' The form of the name is ultimately derived from the Septuagint, where $\beta\eta\rho\sigma\alpha\beta\epsilon$ è occurs for 'Bath-shea' or 'Bath-shua'.

454-61. The gentill Judas Machabee: the poet has added nothing to the brief account given in the Væux du Paon.

456. Antiochus: Chaucer makes Antiochus the subject of one of

his 'tragedies' in The Monkes Tale.

464-512. Areste was sir Arthure, etc.: the writer has amplified his original, which deals mainly with Arthur's encounter with the giant on Mount Michael, by adding a summary account of Arthur's passing. In the MS. Wawayne (i.e. Gawain) takes the place of Sir Bedwere (ll. 497, 499, 502, 505), but it is clear from the alliterative structure of the line that Wawayne is a scribal error for a knight whose name begins with a vowel, and probably Text B. preserves the correct reading, viz. 'Ewan' (a scribal modification of 'Ewayne'). Possibly the poet had some authority for making 'Ewayne, le fyse de roy Vryence', the companion of Arthur before his passing away; on the other hand the error may have been due to ignorance of the romances (in the French prose Lancelot Girflet acts the part of Bedwere). Ewayne and Gawayne were cousins and great friends, the latter sharing the former's banishment when Arthur suspected him of being party to the plots of his mother Morgan. In British romance no knight occupies a more conspicuous position than Owain ab Urien Rheged. The Welsh story of 'The Lady of the Fountain' (Lady Guest's Mabinogion, vol. i); the English romance of 'Ywain and Gawain' (ed. Ritson, 1802; G. Schleich, Oppeln, 1887); Hartmann von Aue's Iwein; the Icelandic 'Ivens Saga' (Kölbing's Riddarasögur, pp. 75-136); the Swedish 'Herr Ivan Lejon-Riddaren' (Svenska Fornskrift-Sällskapet, 1845-9); all these versions are for the most part derived from the Chevalier au Lyon by Chrestien de Troyes. The account deviates from the account given in the Morte d'Arthur, and from all the various versions considered in connexion therewith (cp. Sommer's Le Morte Darthur, vol. iii, pp. 265-78, etc.).

481. [R]oystone: so in Vœux du Paon the name of the giant is 'Ruston'. M. Paul Meyer has the following note on the form: 'Il faut lire Riton ou Rithon au lieu de Ruston. Il s'agit du géant Ritho dont Geoffroi de Monmouth (x. 3) raconte la défaite, et qui figure dans divers romans postérieurs. L'histoire du géant du Mont-Saint-Michel est racontée par Geoffroi de Monmouth dans le même chapitre.'

In Morte Darthur (Book I. xxvii) the story is told of 'Kynge Ryons' who had 'purfyled a mantel with kynges berdes and there lacked one place of the mantel', etc.; in I. xvii we have 'Ryence'; in the Avowis of Alexander 'Rostrik'; cp. W. Förster, Zeitschrift für rom. Phil. I. p. 91.

487. Vppon Sayn Michaells mounte meruaylles he wroghte,

etc.; cp. Morte Darthur, Book V.

488. There a dragone he dreped: not a dragon, but a giant; cp. Alliterative *Morte Arthur*, ll. 840 ff.; so Malory. The dragon is only seen in a dream.

513-19. Sir Godfraye de Bolenn, etc.: it is difficult to understand why Godfrey precedes Charlemagne, unless it is due to the author's utter ignorance of chronology; his knowledge of the last of the Nine Worthies is certainly vague, nor has he clearly understood the six lines

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of his original; the historical Godfrey was not as attractive to the fourteenth-century poet as the legendary Charlemagne and Arthur; he was much too modern. William of Tyre's history of the First Crusade belongs to about 1170, and became the source of the accounts of Godfrey's achievements (cp. Caxton's Godfrey of Boloyne, or Last Siege of Jerusalem, ed. Dr. Mary N. Colvin, R. E. T. S., Extra Series, lxiv; Caxton's preface is especially noteworthy).

514. Romanye; cp. Caxton: 'In this tyme cam tydynges fro Rome that doubled theyr sorow and anguysshis'; 'Rome' = 'Romanye' (in the French, 'Roumanie'), derived from William of Tyre's 'in partibus Romanie', by which phrase he indicates the country between Con-

stantinople and Antioch.

516. Corborant: generally called 'Corbaran' in the French poems on the crusades; properly, 'Kerbogha', Sultan of Aleppo; in the

History of Godfrey he is named 'Corbagat'.

517. And aftir he was callede kynge, etc. William of Tyre tells how Godfrey refused to be called 'King of Jerusalem', not wishing to wear a crown of gold in that city where his Saviour had been crowned with thorns. Baldwin, his brother, who succeeded him within two

years, styled himself 'Rex Hierusalem, Latinorum Primus'.

520-83. The account of Charlemagne falls broadly into five divisions: (i) an enumeration of 'the doghty doussypers'; (ii) the war with the Saxons; (iii) Oliver's fight with Ferumbras; (iv) the disaster at Roncesvalles; (v) the siege of Narbonne, and the death of Charles. Our author can hardly have derived his story from any one source, and there are many curious elements in the passage elaborated from

the few lines on Charlemagne in Les Vœux du Paon.

(i) Lines 522-9. The list of the peers does not coincide with that given in any of the French or English romances (v. Histoire poétique de Charlemagne, par Gaston Paris, p. 507; Sir Ferumbras, edited by Sidney J. Herrtage, p. 193; The Sowdone of Babylone, ed. E. Hausknecht (E. E. T. S.), p. xxvii. 'The Katur fitz Emowntez' (i.e. the Four Sons of Aymon) count together as one, so that the number may not exceed twelve, but several lists give sixteen or even more barons of themperour Charles and pyeres of Fraunce'. Eight of the names enumerated in the present list are identical with those given in Ferumbras, viz. Roland, Oliver, Aubry, Ogere Deauneys (i.e. Ogier of Denmark), Naymes of Bavaria, Terry (i.e. Thierry), Berarde de Moundres (i.e. Berarde of Montdidier), Gy de Burgoyne (i.e. Guy of Burgundy). Raynere of Jene (i.e. Reyner of Genoa), the father of Oliver, figures in Ferumbras, but not as one of the douzeperes; Turpyn, Sampsonne (i.e. Samson of Burgundy, frequently mentioned in the lists), and 'the Katur fitz Emowntez' are not found there at all. Turpin, the knight-bishop of the romances, has an important place in the poem of Aspremont, in the Enfances Ogier. According to the Chanson de Roland, he met his death at Roncesvaux, and this narrative our author follows (vide 1. 565). The Chronicle of Turpin makes him survive the battle. 'Terry and Turpyn' are mentioned together among the

douzeperes in the fragmentary English Song of Roland (ed. S. J. Herr-

tage, 'The Sege of Melayne', etc., E. E. T. S., pp. 105-36).

(ii) Lines 531-40 evidently epitomize the struggle between Charles and the Saxons which is the subject of Jean Bodel's Chanson des Saxons (ed. Francisque Michel). The introduction of Salamadyne the Sowdane looks, however, like a confusion of Charlemagne with Godefroy of Bouillon, unless the familiar name is substituted for 'Agoulant' of Les Vœux du Paon. 'Polborne' (Text B. Puerne) is a crux; perhaps it is a corruption of 'Paderborn', where Charles held his great Champ-de-Mai, and which was certainly the most important spot in the struggles between the Franks and Saxons. The word recalls the equally difficult place-name 'Belferne' in the Chanson de Roland (stanza lxx, vide L. Gautier's last edition): 'Reis Almaris, de le regne de Belferne', where Belferne is glossed 'nom de royaume païen (?)'; in the English Roland, Amaris is described as 'a prince of Portingall'.

536. Witthyne; Text B. 'Wyghtelyne'; = Guitelin (v. Chanson des Saxons) or Guitechin = Witikind or Widukind, the great Saxon leader, the hero of the Saxon wars against Charles, 'the Second Arminius of Germany'. I know no other record of the name in

Early English literature.

539-40. I cannot discover whence the poet derived 'dame Naoles' as the name of the wife, and 'Maundevyle' as the name of her lover. In the *Chanson des Saxons* and other versions the lady's name is Sibile, and her lover is Baudouin, Roland's brother; their story forms

an important part of the Chanson.

(iii) Lines 541-57. This condensation of the Romance of Ferumbras is remarkable for the introduction of 'Merchel' (i.e. 'Marsile', the pagan hero of Roland) instead of 'Balan' (as he is called in the French, Provençal, and English versions of Syr Ferumbras), or 'Laban' (cp. The Sowdone of Babylone); the correction, it is true, has been made in the text, but the alliteration of the line reveals the poet's error. 'Balan' was the father of Ferumbras; 'Marsile', the uncle of Ferragus. The former figures in the Ferumbras cycle; the latter in the Roland poems. No Charlemagne romance seems to have been more popular in England than 'the Romanys of worthi Ferambrace', wherewith it will be remembered 'the gud king' Bruce comforted his men, 'and maid thaim gamyn and solace' (cp. Barbour's Bruce, ed. Skeat, III, 435-66).

542. Flagott, i.e. Flagot, the Spanish river on which are situated the cities of Mantrible, or Mauntrible, here called 'Mawltriple', and Agremour, or Egremour, here 'Egremorte' ('Aigremont' Ferumbras). The Romance tells how when the twelve peers besieged in Agremar send Richard of Normandy to Charlemagne to ask his aid, Richard starts in the direction of Mantrible, but finding the bridge blocked up and guarded, he is obliged to swim across the water. Charlemagne, hearing of the distress of his peers, starts towards Mantrible, and then continues his march against the soudan at Agremar (cp. The Sowdone

of Babylone; Sir Ferumbras, etc.).

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545. And than they fologhed hym in a fonte, and Florence hym callede; *cp.*

'pan was cristned sir Firumbras, a man of gret deffens, Ys name ther y-chaunged was, & was inote Florens, Ac po; me tornde par ys name, as pe manere was,

Euere 3ut after a baar be same, & men cliped him Firumbras, (Sir Ferumbras, ll. 1086-9.)

551. And one swyftely, i.e. Sir Ogier.

555. [put]; cp. 'Prow Pylat pyned he was, & put on be rode', Sege of Jerusalem, 8.

557. And at Sayne Denys, etc.

Cp. 'Karlemaines s'en va au moustier Saint Denis; Là manda arcevesques, evesques benéis, Les reliques lor monstre Damedieu Jhesu Cris.'

(Vide Sir Ferumbras, p. 188, l. 6076.)
The French Romance goes on to say that within three years came

the treachery of Gwenelon:

'Ne tarda que iii. ans qu'Espaigne fu gastée;

Là fu la traïsons de Rollant pourparlée.'

duellyd there for euer: better, 'and [they] duelled there', etc.

(iv) Lines 558-70. This summary account of Genelon's treachery, and the battle of 'Rowncyuale', was evidently suggested by the closing lines of Sir Ferumbras (quoted above). 'Balame' (ll. 558, 569) is the poet's error for 'Merchel', to which it has been changed by some one better acquainted with the details of the story; the alliteration, however, has preserved the error.

561. Genyone: B. 'Golyan'; in Sowdone of Babylone the form is

'Genelyn'; in the English Roland 'Gwynylon'.

As far as the form in Text A. is concerned, it is noteworthy that the Latin 'Battle of Roncevaux' (vide Appendix to La Chanson de Roland, ed. Francisque Michel) gives the name as 'Gueno', the colophon reading 'Explicit de tradicione guenonis'. But perhaps 'Genyone' is merely a verbal error for 'Genylone'.

562. Rowncyuale: the regular English form of 'Roncesvalles'.
569. According to the *Chanson de Roland*, Marsile (here 'Balame')
was fatally wounded by Roland a few moments before his own death.

(v) Lines 571-7. Emorye made Emperour, euen at that tyme, etc. Our author here alludes to 'Aimeri de Narbonne', whose story belongs to the cycle of Guillaume d'Orange, who saved Narbonne from the Saracens in 793 (cp. Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the Department of Manuscripts in the British Museum, vol. i, pp. 632-63; also Aymeri de Narbonne, and La Mort Aymeri de Narbonne, Société des Anciens Textes français).

577. To [haue] and to holde it; cp. ' be fairest of Grèce | To haue

and to hold', Troy Book, 2415.

586. Arestotle he was arste in Alexander tyme, etc.: the reference is obviously to the famous, though spurious, Secretum

Secretorum Aristotelis, addressed under the name of Aristotle to his

pupil Alexander the Great.

The greater part of Hoccleve's De Regimine Principum is from this work; and Chaucer, in his Chanouns Yemannes Tale, refers to 'the secree of secrees'; cp. Secrees of old Philisoffres (E. E. T. S., 1894).

594. Then Virgill, thurgh his vertus, ver[r]ayle he maket Bodyes of brighte brasse full boldely to speke, etc.

The reference is to the story in the Latin Gesta Romanorum telling how Virgil, the enchanter, placed a magical image in the middle of Rome, which communicated to the Emperor Titus all the secret offences committed every day in the city. Among the many allusions to Virgil's magical powers perhaps the most interesting in English literature are Gower's story of the Magic Mirrors (Confessio Amantis, book v; cp. also book viii); the ninth tale of The Seuen Sages (Weber's Metrical Romances, vol. iii); the black-letter romance of Virgilius, printed at Antwerp in the year 1510; Lydgate's reference in Tragedies of Bochas, book ix, ch. i, st. 4. (The chief work dealing with 'Virgil in the Middle Ages' is Comparetti's; English trans., Sonnenschein.)

599-605. Than sir Salomon, etc.: the poet refers to (i) the apocryphal Book of Wisdom, and (ii) Ecclesiasticus; these books, attributed to Solomon, were in the Middle Ages better known than Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, the former probably owing to its allegorical interpretation; cp. St. Augustine, De Trin. vii. 3 Cum pronunciatur in Scriptura aut enarratur aliquid de Sapientia sive dicente ipsa siye

cum de illa dicitur, Filius nobis potissimum insinuatur'.

599. by hy[s] one: this reading of B. gives the idiomatic form of the genitive with 'one', i.e. 'by himself alone'; cp. 'to kayre al his one', Gawain, 1048; 'we bot oure one', ibid., 1230, 2245.

608. And graythe[d] Galyan (B. Golyan) a boure to [gete] hir ber-in,

That no wy scholde hir wielde ne wynne from hym-

seluen;
'Golyan' or 'Galyan' = 'Viviane' or 'Vivien', Lady of the Lake;
the original form of the name seems to have been Ninian, transformed by scribes to Niuian, Niuienne, Viuienne; Malory calls her

Nymue or Nyneue.

The allusion to Vivien in connexion with Merlin's 'wit' is at first sight not altogether happy, for it recalls the weird scene in 'the deep forest glades of Broceliande', where 'the woman's wit triumphed over the sage's wisdom', and Vivien, turning Merlin's craft against himself, 'graythed a bour' for the great Enchanter to keep him there imprisoned, 'lost to life, and use, and name, and fame'.

Our author, however, alludes to an episode in the story of Merlin not found in Malory's account of the Vivien incident (book iv, ch. i). The explanation of the passage is to be found in the French Suite de Merlin (vide Sommer, vol. iii), where it is narrated that Merlin builds by the 'lac de Dyane' a palace so rich and beautiful that no king nor

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prince, 'en toute la petite Bretaigne', could boast of possessing the like. Merlin by enchantment renders the palace invisible, so that no one who does not belong to Niviene's 'maisnie' can see it. He stays there with Niviene for a long time, and while he loves her best of all the world she hates him; she would fain be rid of him, but knows not how, he is so wise (ibid., p. 118).

614. Amadase and Edoyne (B. 'Amadas & Ydoyne') are frequently referred to, in company with Tristram and Isoude, as the embodiments of ideal love, and as the subject of popular romances of the time; cp. Cursor Mundi, 1-20; Luue Run, Old English Miscellany,

p. 95; E. E. T. S. (v. Appendix).

The fullest allusion occurs in the romance of *Emare* (cp. Ritson's *Metrical Romances*, vol. ii), where a beautiful description is given of a piece of cloth made by the daughter of the Amerayle of the Saracens, presented by the King of Cesyle to the Emperor Aetyus; thereupon were portrayed the love-stories of Idoyne and Amadas, Tristram and Isowde, Florys and Blauncheflour, and others.

Similar references are to be found in Gower's Confessio Amantis (book vi, l. 879); in the romance of Sir Degrevant (l. 1478; v. The Thorn-

ton Romances, ed. J. O. Halliwell, Camden Society, 1844), etc.

Probably no English version was ever made of the love-story of Idoyne and Amadas, though we have two variants of a romance of Sir Amadace (vide Weber's Metrical Romances, vol.iii, and Robson's Three Metrical Romances, Camden Society, 1842), but this is merely a fantastic tale of quixotic adventure, without any elements of romantic love. Idoyne is not even mentioned therein. The old French romance of the lovers is extant (cp. Amadas et Ydoine, ed. Hippeau, 1863; Hist. Litt. xxii; Romania, xviii; Gaston Paris, 'Sur Amadas et Idoine,' An English Miscellany, Oxford, 1901; Larminie's West Irish Tales). The romance was among the books bequeathed by Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, to the Abbey of Bordesley in Worcestershire (cp. Todd's Illustrations to Chaucer and Gower, p. 161).

617. Dalyda (for 'Dalilah'), the ordinary mediaeval form of the name, was originally a Greek formation, due to analogy with words ending in ιδα; the form is found in the Septuagint (Roger Bacon already alludes to the error, and explains it in his Compendium Studii;

vide Rolls edition).

618. The romance of Sir Ipomedon, son of Hermogenes, King of Apulia, tells the chivalrous adventures of the hero before he wins the daughter of the Duke of Calabria for his wife. The name of the lady is not given in the English version, which is merely an abridgement from the French original, written about 1185 by Hue de Rotelande, a poet living at Credenhill, near Hereford, a contemporary of Walter Map, who (according to a passage at the end of Part I of the poem) excelled the author in the art of lying:

'Sul ne sai pas de mentir l'art, Walter map reset ben sa part.'

Throughout the romance the young Duchess of Calabria is called

'la fière pucelle', or 'La Fière'; hence 'be faire Fere' of the text (vide Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the MS. Department of the British Museum, vol. i, pp. 728-57; Wright's Biographia Britannica Literaria, Anglo-Norman Period, pp. 338-40; Ipomedon, in drei englischen Bearbeitungen, E. Kölbing, Breslau, 1889).

620. Generides be gentill, full joly in his tyme, And Clarionas bat was so clere, etc.

The English versions of the romance of Sir Generydes belong to about the middle of the fifteenth century; the French original is lost. The same fate has befallen a Latin translation which was made from the French by 'a clerk at Hertford'. An English version of the tale was printed in the sixteenth century, but only a few mutilated fragments of the edition are known to exist'; cp. Generydes; a Romance in Seven-line Stanzas, edited by W. A. Wright; Sir Generides, ed. Furnivall, Roxburghe Club; O. Zirwer, Untersuchungen zu den

beiden Generidesromanzen, Breslau, 1889.

622. Sir Eglamour of Artas, full euerous in armes. English metrical romance of Sir Eglamour of Artois was first printed by J. O. Halliwell in The Thornton Romances, from a Cambridge MS.; Ellis gave a full abstract in Specimens of Early Metrical Romances. It occurs also in the Percy Folio (cp. vol. ii, pp. 338-89). The romance relates how Eglamour loved 'Cristabella', the daughter of his lord, the Earl of 'Artas'; how she was delivered of a boy while her lover was absent on an expedition; how she and her child were turned adrift in a boat; how the child was carried away by a 'gryppe'; how, after a lapse of years, the son was nearly married to his mother; and how, eventually, he and his parents were happily united (cf. Ward's Cat. of Romances, Brit. Mus., vol. i, pp. 766-7). The MSS. of Sir Eglamour are later than the end of the fourteenth century, or all events not earlier (cp. Englische Studien, vii, pp. 191 ff.). Its source is so far unknown; a French original has not been discovered. The poem is closely related to the romance of Torrent of Portugal (the only MS. of which belongs to the fifteenth century); cp. E. E. T. S., 1887; Zielke, Zu Sir Eglamour, Kiel, 1889; Schleich. Archiv xcii.

Sir Eglamour was printed at Edinburgh by Walter Chepman and Andro Myllar, under the title of Sir Glamor, 1508, and subsequently at London by Copland and Walley (cp. Hazlitt's Handbook to Early English Literature, p. 177). In Archiv xcv J. Hall printed a fragment

of an edition by Bankes.

624. And sir Tristrem the trewe, etc.; cp. Note, l. 614. The most valuable of modern editions of Sir Tristrem is E. Kölbing's (Heilbronn, 1882).

629. Gaynore, i.e. Guinevere; cp. Wenore, Gaw. and Gr. Kn., 945.

643. Cp. Piers Plowman, C. xxi. 153. 665. B. 'of oure mysse.' The rhyme is obviously an 'improvement' not due to the original writer of the poem.

GLOSSARY

a, v. an. anober, another thing, otherwise. abashede, pt. 3s. discomfited, 484; OE. $\bar{a}n + \bar{o}\delta er$. 369; AF. abaïss-, lengthened stem any, 37; OE. ænig. of OF. esbahir. appon, upon, 10; vppon, 487; aboute, 76; abowte, 46; OE. OE. uppan. onbūtan. araye, n. attire, 107; AF. arai. abydes, v. habyde. arayed, prepared, 346; AF. adversarye, 311; OF. adversier. arayer. affrayede, attacked, 356; AF. ardaunt, ardent, inflammable, 590; OF. ardant. afrayer. aftire, 63; OE. æfter. are, before, 283; OE. ær. agayne, 437; OE. ongegn. are, v. bene. age, 164; OF. aäge. areste, first, 464; OE. ærest. agreed, 358; OF. agréer. armes, arms, 113; OE. earm. aldeste, v. olde. armes, deeds of arms, 171; OF. alle, adj., all, 49; adv., 26; OE. eall. arsneke, arsenic, 590; OF. arals, as, 3; as, 5; OE. alswā. senik. also, 167; OE. alswā. arte, v. bene. am, v. bene. as, v. als. amatistes, amethysts, 127; OF. asegede, v. asseggede. askes, requires, 240; pt. 3 s. amatiste. Amen, 665; L. āmēn. askede, 160; OE. āscian. amende, pr. 3 s. subj. reform, 665;assaye, trial of grease of a deer, imp. pl. amendes, 641; OF. 70; OF. assai. amender. assayllede, 397; OF. asaillir. ames, pr. 3 s. resolves, 384; OPic. asseggede, pt. 3 s. besieged, 574; pl. assegede, 303; pp. asegede, amorelle, emir, 515; OF. amiral; 356; OF. asegier. Arab. amīr-al-mā, commander assemblet, 340; OF. assembler. of the sea. assentis, yields, complies, 63; OF. assenter. an, indef. art. 84: ane, 5, 25; a, 4; OE. ān. assommet, pp. elevated, (?) fullgrown, 31; OF. assommer. and, 2; if, 106, 189; OE. and. angelles, angels, 215; at, 5; OE. æt. athell, noble, 345; OE. ædele. angele. athes, conjures, 499; OE. *æðan; angrye, 163; ON. angr + -y. anone, straightway, 74; OE. on $cp. \bar{a}b.$ attyrede, 169; OF, atirier. ān.

aughte, obtained, possessed, 392, 406; OE. āgan, āhte.

aughtilde, intended, 483; cp. OK. ætla, from *ahtila; cp. OE. eahtian.

auntirs, pr. 3s. ventures, 375; pt. 3s. aunterde, 543; OF. aventurer.

auntlers, antlers, 28; OF. antoillier; late L. *ant(e)oculārem.

aventure, adventure, 451; auntoure, 317; OF. aventure.

a-vowe, pr. 1s. vow, 178; pp. avowede, 204; pt. 3 pl. made vows, 365; OF. avouer.

a-waye, 504; OE. aweg. **awnn**, own, 392; OE. āgen.

axe, 374; OE. æx.

axles, pl. shoulders, 113; OE. eaxl.

ay, ever, 564; ON. ei.

ayers, heirs, 577; OF. eir, heir. aythere, each of the two, 28, 456; ayther, 512; OE. aghwæ\er.

babirlippede, large lipped, 158; cp. F. babine, lip of a horse; OE. lippe.

bade, pt. 3s. asked, 390; commanded, 559; OE. biddan.

bagge, money-bag, 139; ON. baggi.

bakke, 200; bake, 272; one b., aback, 369; OE. bæc.

bale, mischief, 453; OE. bealu. balghe, rounded, swelling, thick, 112; OE. belg, bælg, a bag.

balkede, stopped short, 56; OE. balca, n.

ballede, bald, 158; cp. Welsh bal, having a white streak on the forehead.

banke, 7; ON. *banki, bakki. bare, pt. 3 s. bore, 369; bere, 439, 504; OE. beran.

be, v. bene, by.

be-dagged, covered with mud, 245; ON. döggva; Sw. dagga, to bedew.

bedis, beads, 153; OE. (ge)bed. be-gynn, 72; OE. beginnan. belde, built, 662; OE. *byldan,

belde, built, 662; OE. *byldan pp. gebyld.

bele, beautiful, 390; OF. bel. bellys, bells, 214; OE. belle.

be-lyue, quickly, 416; by-lyue, 505; ME. bi life.

beme, the main trunk of a stag's horn which bears the antlers, 26; OE. bēam.

bende, stretched, 43; OE. bendan.

bene, inf. be, 604; pr. 1s. am, 650; 2s. arte, 185; 3s. es, 177; pl. are, 614; bene, 263; ben, 245; be (with future significance), 336; 2s. subj. 258; pt. s. was, 16; pl. were, 13; 3s. subj. 129, 199, 433, 566; pp. bene, 49; OE. bēon.

benefetis, benefits, profits, 143; AF. benfet.

benes, requests, 143; OE. bēn. beralles, beryls, 123; OF. beril. berde, beard, 156; pl. berdes, 482; OE. beard.

bere, v. bare.

berselett, hound, 39, 69; OF. berseret; med.L. bersare, to hunt.

beryn, warrior, man, 110; beryne, 153; pl. beryns, 509; OE. beorn.

besanttes, bezants, coins, 123; OF. besan, from L. Byzantium.

beste, v. gud. be-syde, beside, 24; OE. be

bette, inf. beat, 560; pr. 3 pl. bettyn, 224; pt. 3 s. bett, 569; OE. beatan.

bettir, v. gud.

be-tyde, inf. happen, 596; pp. be-tydde, 596; OE. be+tīdan. betyn, v. bette.

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bewes, bends his way, 395; bowes, 370; pt. 3 pl. bewede, bowed, bent, 490; OE. bugan. bewes, boughs, 662; OE. boh. Bible, 424; OF. bible. bill, 228; OE. bile. birche, 39; OE. bierce. birde, lady, 390, 453; (?) OE. byrde, noble, rich. bitt, cutting edge, 228; OE. bite. bitterly, fiercely, 228; OE, biterblake, black, 153; OE. blæc. blanchede, v. blawnchede. blaste, blowing, 593; OE. blæst. [b]launchere, blancher, 593; OF. blanchier. blawnchede, pt. 3 s. blanched, 285; pp. blanchede, 156; OF. blanchir. blethely, blithely, merrily, 214; OE. blike + -ly. blode, blood, 55; OE. blod. blody, bloodily, with blood, 62; OE. blodig. blonke, (white) horse, 110; OE. blanca, white; cp. ON. blakkr, steed. blossoms, pl. 11; OE. blostm. blowen, pp. 656; OE. blawan. blynde, 158; OE. blind. blyot, tunic, 482; OF. bliaut; med.L. blialdus, bliaudus. blysse, 664; OE. blips. bodworde, message, 558; OE. bod + word. body, 22; pl. bodyes, 595; OE. bodig. bogle, bugle, 656; OF. bugle. bolde, 110; OM. bald. boldly, 558; boldely, 595; OM. hald +-ly. bole, tree-trunk, 39; ON. bolr. bondemen, serfs, 143; OE. bonda + mann. bone, 80; OE. ban. booke, 407; OE. boc. borely, large, strong, 26; stately,

tall, 32; (?) OE. *burlic, fit for a bower, handsome. bosome, 139; OE. bōsm. bot, but, 34; unless, 289; except, 165, 498; only, 187; OE. būtan. bote, boat, 509; OE. bat. bothe, 22; bothen, 13, 276; ON. bafir. boundes, pl. limits, 334; OF. bone, bune; AF. bounde. boure, bower, 608; OE. būr. bowe, 22; OE. boga. bowells, 69; OF. bouel. bowes, v. bewes. bownn, ready, 153; bownne, 110; ON. būinn. bownnes, pr. 3s. prepares, 265; pt. 1s. bownede, 43; from ON. būinn, adj. brakans, brackens, 62; cp. Sw. bräken. brande, sword, 371; OE. brand. brasse, 595; OE. bræs. braste, pt. 3s. burst, 55; 3pl. brosten, 231; ON. bresta; OE. berstan. braunches, pl. branches, 11; OF. branche. brawndeschet, brandished, 504; OF. brandiss-, lengthened stem of brandir. brayde, pt. s. wrenched, 69, 371; pp. brayden, plaited, 131; OE. bregdan. brayed, cried out, 56; OF. braire. brayne, 446; OE. brægn. breke, inf. break, 41; pr. 3 pl. brekyn, 231; OE. brecan. brenn, inf. burn, 560; pp. brente, burnished, 131; ON. brenna. breris, briars, 62; OAngl. brer. breste, 112; OE. breost. breues, narrates, 424; ON. brefa; med.L. breviäre. bride, 482; OE. bryd. bridell, 131; brydell, 191; OE. bridell. brighte, 214; OE. beorht.

brode, broad, 32; adv. 51; n. breadth, 71; OE. brād. broghte, v. brynges. brosten, v. brast. browes, 156; OE. brū. bruschede, rushed with force, 56; OF. brosser. Bruyte, the Brut, a chronicle of British history, 407; v. Note. brydell, v. bridell. bryme, water, stream; b. syde, the side of a brook, 7; OE. brymme. brynges, pr. 3 pl. bring, 224; pt.3 s. broghte, 401; OE. bringan. buffetyn, pr. 3 pl. buffet, 224; OF. buffet, n. bullokes, 191; OE. bulluc. burghe, castle, city, 569; OE. burh. burgons, pl. buds, 11; OF. burjon. buskede, arrayed, 22; ON. būask. by, 19, 571; be, 7, 164, 183, 195; OE. bī, be. by-cause, 396; OE. bi + OF. by-come, inf. become, 559; pp. by-comen, come, 507; OE. becuman. byde, remain, 654; OE. bīdan. by-dene, straightway, 364; (?) OE. bi $d\bar{e}n(e)$, pp. of $d\bar{o}n$ (Skeat). bye, inf. buy, 147; imp. s. 190; OE. bycgan. by-fore, in front, 75; OE. beforan. by-hete, pr. 1s. promise, 178, OE. behātan, behēt. by-hynde, 54; OE. bihindan. by-luffede, pp. beloved, 274; OE. bi + lufian. by-lyue, v. be-lyue. by-ronnen, pp. overrun, covered, 62; OE. berinnan.

by-segede, besieged, 397; OE.

by-soughte, 357; OE. be + secan.

be + aphetic form of OF. asegier.

by-weuede, bedecked, 122; OE. bewæfan. cache, inf. catch, 33; pt. 3 pl. caughten, took, 362; pp. caughte, 443; ONF. cachier. callen, pr. 3 pl. call, 425; pt. 3 pl. callede, 151; ON. kalla. calsydoynnes, chalcedonies, 124; L. c(h)alcedonius. caprons, hoods, 212, 237; OF. capron. cares, pr. 2 s. 189; pt. 3 s. carede, 165; OE. carian. carolles, 254; QF. carole. carpe, inf. speak, 462; ON. karpa. carpynge, n. talk, 168; ON. karpa + -ing. castelle, 411; ONF. castel. casten, inf. cast, 212; pt. 1s. kest vp, turned over, 68; ON. certayne, in c., for certain, 635; OF. certain. chambirs, 249; OF. chambre. chaplet, garland, 118; OF. chapechareboole, carbuncle, 121; OF. charboucle. chawylls, jowls, 72; OE. ceafl. chefe, pr. 3 pl. succeed, 243; pt. 3 s. cheuede, befell, 98; OF. chever. chefe, adj. 255; especial, choice, 121; adv. (?) first, (?) = at be c., at the top, 72; OF. chef. chefe-lere, chevelure, hair, 118; OF. chevelure, written in MS. as if derived from OF. chef+OE. hlēor. chefely, particularly, especially, 89, 235; OF. chef + -ly. cheres, pr. 3s. cheers, 235; OF. chérir. chese, inf. betake oneself to, 255;

pr. 3 s. cheses, 538; pr. 3 pl.

chosen, 243; pt. s. chese.

chose, 72; ches, 531; pp. chosen, 118, 121; OE. cēosan.

chesse, 255; aphetic form of OF. eschès.

cheuede, v. chefe.

choppede, 89; (?) cp. Dan. kappe; Sw. kappa.

chosen, v. chese.

chynede, cut along the backbone, 89; cp. OF. eschine, n.

cite, city, 303; OF. cité.

clere, beautiful, 621; OF. cler. clerkes, 148; OE., OF. clerc.

closede, enclosed, 411; OF. clos, subj. stem of clore.

clothes, 188; OE. clap.

clustrede, pp. 124; OE. cluster, n.

clyp, inf. embrace, 248; OE. clyppan.

colere, collar, 124; AF. coler. coloppe, collop, dish of meat, 33; cp. Sw. kollops.

come, n. coming, 336; OE. cyme. come, inf. 203; pr. 3s. comes, 293, 631; pt. 1s. come, 246; pp. comen, 355; OE. cuman.

comforthe, inf. comfort, 248; pt. 3s. comforthed, 396; OF. conforter.

comly, 627; OE. cymlic.

comonly, publicly, 467; OF. comun + -ly; (? for comlyly; B. comly).

compaste, contrived, 409; OF. compasser.

compaynyes, social gatherings, 254; OF. compagnie.

condithe, conduit, 409; OF. conduit.

conquered, pt. 3 s. 337; OF. conquerre.

conquerours, 251; OF. conquereor.

conqueste, 402; OF. conqueste. consell, advice, 195; OF. conseil.

contrees, countries, 492; OF. contree.

corbyns, raven's; c. bone, the bone between the anus and the bladder of an animal, given to the crows as valueless, 80; OF. corbin.

cornells, battlements, 411; OF. carnel.

corownne, v. crowne.

couche, 165; OF. couche.

couerede, covered, 42; OF. covrir. coundythes, secular songs, 'con-

duts' (v. N. E. D.), 254; OF. condut.

countours, calculators, treasurers, 148; AF. countour.

courbede, v. cowrbed.

courte, 246; pl. courtes, 148; OF. cort.

couthe, v. kane.

couthely, properly, cunningly, 462; OE. cublice.

cowchide, caused to couch down, 39; OF. coucher.

cowers, (?) leather straps, 237; v. Note.

cownten, count, tell, 307; OF. cunter.

cowpe, inf. cope, fight, 203; OF. couper.

cowpe, cup, 401; OE. cuppe; OF. coupe.

cowples, ties up, 237; OF. cupler. cowrbed, pt. 3s. bent down, 287; pp. courbede, 154; OF. courber. cowschote, cushat, wood-pigeon,

13 : OE. cüscute.

crabtre, crab-apple tree, 42; (?) cp. Sw. dial. skrabba; OE. trēo. craftely, skilfully, 409; OE.

cræftiglīce.

crakede, broke, 373; OE. cracian. crede, creed, 161; OE. crēda; L. crēdo.

crepite, v. krepyn. cried, 161; OF. crier. Criste, 161; OE. Crist.

Cristen, Christian, 462; Cristyne, 559; OE. Cristen; OF. Cristine.

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crouschede, pp. crouched, 64; OF. crochir.

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curssede, accursed, 401; OE. cursian.

cuttede, pt. 1 s. cut out, 80; kutt, cut, 68; (?) cp. Sw. dial. kuta.

dalte, v. delys. dame, lady, 357; OF. dame. damesels, maidens, 249; OF. dameisele.

dare, 583; OE. dearr.

daunsen, dance, 249; OF. danser. day, 6; at his dayes tyme, at his appointed time, 579; in their days, 582; OE. dæg.

dayses, daisies, 10; OE. dæges

eage.

declares, 638; OF. declarer.
dede, dead, 65, 258, 400; OE.
dēad.

dede, death, 399, 583, 631; OE. deab; cp. Sw., Dan. dod.

deden, v. do.

dedis, deeds of arms, 181; OE.

delys, pr. 3s. deals, 264; imp. s. dele, 664; pt. 3s. dalte, 403; OE. dælan.

demden, pt. 3 pl. decided, 367; demed[e]n, declared, 331; pp. demed, adjudged, 472; OE. deman

departede, separated, 77; OF. departir.

dere, inf. harm, 36; OE. derian.

dere, noble, 125, 249; OE. dēore. derelynge, darling, 617; OE. dēorling.

derke, darkness, 16; OE. deorc,

dethe, the d., the death, 403;

OE. dēap. deuyll, devil, 260, 447; OE. dēofol.

dewe, 10; OE. dēaw.

dide, v. do.

digges, ducklings, 245; (?) cp. Sw. dyk-fågel; Glo. dial. dug.

dighte, pp. dight, arranged, 125; ordained, 597; OE. dihtan. disfegurede, pt. 3s. disfigured,

284; pp. disfygured, 155; OF. desfigurer.

dispysede, scorned, 550; OF. despis-, subj. stem of despire.

do, inf. 294; doo, 367; pt. 3s.
dide, put, 557, 570; 3pl. deden,
did, 367; pp. done, 181; finished, 16; OE. don.

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doghetynes, doughtiness, 583;

OE. dohtig + -ness.

doghty, doughty, 521; doghety, 181; doughety, 461; used as n. doughty, 344; sup. doghtyeste, 582; OE. dyhtig, dohtig.

dole, bewailing, sorrow, 258, 400; OF. doel.

doluen, buried, 258; OE. delfan. done, v. do.

donkede, was moist, 10; cp. ON. dökk, a pool.

doo, v. do.

dore, door, 292; OE. dor. dore-nayle, 65; OE. nægl.

doughty, v. doghty.

doun, down, 38; OE. (of) dune, late OE. dune.

doussypers, v. dussypere. douth, noble company, 348;

OE. duguþ. dowkynge, plunging under water, 245; cp. MLG. dūken. dowte, uncertainty, 102; OF. doute.

dragone, 488; OF. dragon.

drede, pr. 1s. dread, 292; pp. 488; OE. (on)drædan.

dreghe, long, 102; OE. *dreog; ON. drjugr.

dreghe, dree, undergo, go through with, 3; OE. dreogan.

dremed, impers. dreamed, 102; OE. dream, n.

dreped, slew, 488; drepide, 456; drepitt, 379; OE. drepan.

Drightyn, v. Dryghtyn. droghe, pt. 3 s. betook, 410; 3 pl.

droghen, 381; OE. dragan. droue, v. dryves.

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drynke, beverage, 400; OE. drinc. dryves, pr. 3s. hastens, 19; pt. 3s. droue, drove, 6; OE. drīfan. duellys, pr. 2s. dwellest, 175; pt.

3s. duellyde, 410; 3pl. duellyde, they) remained, 557; OE. dwellan.

duke, 348; OF. duc.

dussypere, one of the twelve peers, 348; pl. 403; doussypers, 521; OF. douze pers, pl. dyamandes, diamonds, 125; OF.

diamant.
dyede, died, 579; ON. deyja.
dynges, knocks, 654; cp. Icel.
dengja.

dynt, blow, 447; OE. dynt.

echecheke, check, false stop, when a hawk forsakes her proper game, and pursues some baser game, 243; pl. ecchekkes, 235; OF. eschec.

efte, again, 436; OE. eft. egheliche, terribly, 28, 113 (MS. i-liche); OE. *egelīce; cp. OE. egeslīc.

eghne, eyes, 50; OE. ēage.

elde, age, 133; old age, 154, 283; OE. eldo; cp. medill-elde.

eldeste, v. olde.

ells, else, 273; otherwise, 260; ellis, 310; OE. elles.

embroddirde, embroidered, 123; cp. OF. embroder.

emeraudes, emeralds, 127; OF. emeraude.

emperour, 345; OF. empereor. encrampeschet, pt. 3 s. cramped, 287; pp. encrampeschett, 154; en-+OF. crampiss-, lengthened stem of crampir.

ende, 404; pl. endes, regions, parts, 220; OE. ende.

enewede, driven into the water, 245; OF. enewer.

ensample, example, 269; OF. essample.

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es, v. bene. ese, ease, 136; OF. aise. euen, exactly, 367; OE. efne.

euer, ever, 135; OE. æfre.
euerous, eager, desirous, 306, 543, 622; euerrous, 271, 329;
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full, very, 10, 14; OE. full.

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hornes, 95; OE. horn. horse, 111; OE. hors. hounde, 60; OE. hund. houen, hover, 215; etym.unknown. how, 70; OE. hū. howghe, interj. ho, 223. howses, houses, 142; OE. hus. hundrethe, hundred, 164; ON. hundrað. hunte, hunter, 96; OE. hunta. hurkles, squats, 19; cp. MLG. hurken. hurlede, struck with forcible collision, dashed together, 57; cp. Dan. hurle, to whirr. hyghes, pr. 3s. hurries, 508; 3 pl. 213; hyen, 59, 216; hyenn, 210; pt. 1s. hyede, 60; OE. higian. hym, v. he. hym-seluen, himself, 389; hymselfe, 526; OE. him selfum. hynde, hind, 5; pl. hyndes, 17; OE. hind. I, 3; dat. acc. me, 4, 24, 42; OE. ic, me. iche, each, 15, 393; OE. æghwilc. iles, islands, 334; OF. isle, ile. in, 1; inn, 130; inne, 197; OE. in sondire, asunder, 231; OE. on sundran. in-to, 4, 64; OE. in to. irkede, it became irksome, 277; (?) ON. yrkja. it, 5, 80; OE. hit. i-wis, assuredly, 276; OE. gewis, adj.

hore, hoary, grey, 93; OE. har.

jentille, v. gentill.
joly, brave, noble, 459, 620; OF.
joli.
joyntly, continuously, steadily,
180; OF. joint+-ly.
jugge[n], pr. pl. subj. judge, 422;
OF. jugier.

justede, pp. jousted, 180; OF.
juster.
justers, jousters, 459; OF. justeor.

kane, pr. 3 pl. can, 425; pt. 3 s. couthe, knew, 511; OE. cunnan. kaple, horse, nag, 189; cp. Icel. kapall.

katur, four, 529; OF. quatre.
kayre, inf. go, return, 246; ON. keyra.

kaysers, emperors, 605; cp. OHG. keisar; L. Caesar.

kempes, warriors, 251; OE. cempa.

kende, instructed, directed, 553; OE. cennan.

kene, bold, active, 13; OE. cēne. kenely, eagerly, 161, 362; OE. cēnlīce.

keppyn of, inf. snatch off, 212; pt. 3s. kepide, met, greeted, 353; late OE. cēpan.

kepyng, keeping, 443; late OE. cepan +-ing.

kest, v. casten.

keuduart, rogue, 68; cp. kiluarde.

keyes, 398; OE. cæg.

kiddeste, v. kyd. killede, killed, 309; (?) cp. EFris.

küllen, to strike.

kiluarde, rogue, 516; OF. culvert, cuivert; L. collibertus, conlibertus; cp. keuduart.

knawen, v. knowe. knees, 229; OE. cnēo.

knelyn, kneel, 229; OE. cneowlian.

knowe, inf. 168; pp. knawen, 458; OE. cnāwan.

knyghte, 203; OE. cniht. knyghtly, gallantly, 337; OE.

cniht+-ly.
krage, crag, overhanging rock,
cave, 64; cp. W. craig.

krepyn, pr. 3 pl. creep, 229; pt.

1 s. crepite, 42; pp. crepyde 64; crept, 623; OE, creopan, kutt, v. cuttede.

kyd, famous, renowned, 441, 477; kydde, 458; sup. kiddeste, 299; OE. (ge)cyted; pp. of cytan; cp. kythe.

kyngdomes, kingdoms, 402; OE. cyningdom.

kynge, 33; pl. kynges, 251; OE. cyning.

kysse, inf. kiss, 248; OE. cyssan. kythe, inf. make known, 168; OE. cysan; cp. kyd.

kythe, country, 466; OE. cypp.

lache, inf. take, seize, 211; pr. 3s. laches, 239; pt. 3s. laughte, 52; OE. læcc(e)an.

lady, 174; pl. ladyse, 274; OE. hlæfdige.

laghe, custom, 240; late OE. lagu.

lanerettis, male falcons, 220; OF. laneret.

laners, female falcons, 220; OF. lanier.

lappyn, inf. clasp, 247; cp. OE.læppa, a fold of a garment.large, 115; OF. large, fem.

laste, last, 52, 323; OE. latost. laughte, v. lache.

launde, lawn, glade, 24; OF. launde.

layde, laid low, 460; OE. lecgan. laye, faith, 197; OF. lei.

layke, n. sport, 49; ON. leikr.
layke, inf. make sport, 259; ON.
leika.

layne, pp. lain, 655; OE. licgan. laythe, loathsome, 152; ON. leiðr. lede, man, 152, 393; pl. ledys, people, 106; OE. lēod.

lede, inf. lead, 256; pr. 3s. ledys, 352; OE. lædan.

lefte, adj. 54; OE. left.

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lefte, v. leue. loge, inf. lodge, 542; pt. 1s. lugede, 663; OF. logier. legge, 75; ON. leggr. lokes, pr. 3 s. 239; pt. 1 s. lokede, lele, loyal, comely, 115; OF. 24; OE. lōcian. lelly, faithfully, 274; OF. leel longe, adj. 28; adv. 49; comp. lengare, 264, 654; lengere, +-ly. 613; OE. lang, long; comp. adv. leman, beloved one, 174; OE. leof + mann. leng. longede, pt. 3s. abode, 57; OE. lengare, v. longe. lengen, inf. tarry, 199; lenge, (ge)lang, adj.; cp. lengan. 384; pp. lenged, 655; OE. lorde, 185; OE. hlaford. loste, 49; OE. losian. lengan. lothe, loathsome, 275; OE. lab. lenyde, bent, 152; OE. (ge)hleoloughe, low, 460, 658; lowe, nod, pp. 229; ON. lagr. lepis, pr. 3s. leaps, 240; pt. 1s. lepe, ran (with the point of the louset, v. lowsen. knife), 76; OE. hlēapan. loutted, stooped, 52; OE. lutan. lessches, leashes, 211; lesses, loue, louede, v. lufe, luffes. 238; OF. lesse. louely, beautiful, 247, 275; OE. lesse, lest, 82; OE. $\forall \bar{y} \ l\bar{x}$ s $\forall e$. luffic. lowde, loudly, 234, 656; OE. leste, v. littille. lete, pt. 1 s. let, 38, 61; OE. hlūde. lowe, v. loughe. lætan. leue, n. leave, 362; OE. lēaf. lowppes, pr. 3 s. loops, 238; etym. leue, inf. leave, 235; pt. 3s. lefte, unknown. 506; pp. leuede, 395; OE. lowsen, inf. let loose, 211; pt. 1 s. læfan. louset, loosened, 61; ON. lauss, leue, inf. believe, 559; pr. 1s. 197; OAngl. lēfan. lufe, n. love, beloved one, 357, leuere, dearer, 199, 277; OE. 392; loue, 181, 393; OE. lufu. lēofra. luffes, pr. 2 s. loves, 259; pt. 3 s. leues, pl. leaves, 22; OE. leaf. louede, 305; pp. luffede, 174; life, 256; pl. lyues, 252; OE, līf. OE. lufian. lighte, adj. 352; OE. lēoht. lugede, v. loge. **lighte**, *inf*. alight, 222; *pr*. 3 *pl*. lure, loss, 323; OE. lyre. lightten, 220; pt. 3s. lighte, luyre, lure, 239; OF. leurre. fell, 323; OE. lîhtan. lyame, leash, 38, 61; OF. liem. lightenede, pp. become light, lyfe, inf. live, 256; OAngl. liftan. dawned, 16; OE. lihtan +-en. lykes, pr. impers. it pleases, 611; lightly, 38; OE. leohtlice. pt. lykede, 521; OE. līcian. likame, body, 275; OE. līchama. lythe, company, people, 185, 207; liste, pt. impers. it pleased, 588; ON. lvðr. pr. subj. 168; OE. lystan. lyues, v. life. listen, inf. 106; ONorthumb. lysna. makande, comfort, profit, 278;

ON. makindi, friendly inter-

course; cp. mod. Icel. ī makin-

dum, at one's ease; hence

littill, adj. little, 24; adv. sup.

læst.

leste, 259; OE. lytel, sup. adv.

makande = comfort; cp. also dialect makint, confident, possessing assurance; makintly, confidently, with ease (E.D.D.).

make, imp. s. 190; pl. makes, 290; pt. 1 s. makede, reached, 74; made, made, 279; 3 s. 342; maket, 594; 3 pl. maden, 105; pp. made, 48; makede, 344; OE. macian.

mane, man, 347; pl. men, 104; OE. mann.

manere, manner, 433; AF. manere.

many, 125; OE. manig.

marche, march, boundary, district, 151; OF. marche.

maried, pt. 3 s. gave in marriage, 540; OF. marier.

marlede, manured with marl, 279; cp. OF. marle; med. L. marlāre.

marlelyng, dressing land with marl, 142; OF. marle+-ing.

maulerdes, mallards, wild drakes, 221; OF. mallart.

may, pr. 1s. 530; pt. 3s. myghte, 5; OE. magan, meahte.

mayden, 114; OE. mægden. Maye, May, 1; OF. mai.

maye, maiden, 623; (?) OE. mæg. maystries, masteries, powers, 469; OF. maistrie.

me, v. I.

medill, middle, 649; midill, 652; used as n. medill, waist, 114; mydle, middle (of 'beam'), 26; OE. middel.

medill-elde, middle age, 151; cp.

mekyll, great, 479; OE. micel. men, v. mane.

mendis, pr. 3 pl. amend, repair, 146; AF. mender; OF. amender. mendvnge, repair, 142; AF.

mender + -ing.

mendys, amends, reparation, 359; aphetic form of OF. amendes, pl. mene, indicate (call to mind), 630; OE. mænan.

menge, inf. mix, 592; OE. mengan.

menskfully, gracefully, 114; ON. mennska + -fully.

ment, pt. 3s. moaned, 160; OE. mænan.

mercurye watirs, mercury, 589; med. L. mercurius.

mercy, 160; OF. merci.

mere, mere, lake, 500, 508; OE. mere.

meruaylles, pl. marvels, 487; OF. merveille.

meruayllous, marvellous, 606; OF. merveillos.

mery, pleasant, 12; OE. myrige.

metalles, metals, 589; OF. metal.

mete, food, 52; OE. mete.

metyn, pr. 3 pl. meet, 221; pt. 3s. mete, 342; mett, 495; OE. mētan.

midill, v. medill.

mirrours, mirrors, 290; OF. mirour.

mo, v. myche.

mode, mud, 433; cp. LG. mod. mody, proud, 302; comp. modyere, 295; OE. modig.

molde, earth, 295; OE. molde. momelide, mumbled, chattered, 160; cp. Du. mommelen.

monethe, month, 1; OE. monap. more, moor, 495; OE. mor.

more, moste, v. myche.

mosse, moss, 93; OE. mos. moste, pr. impers. must, 653; OE. mot. moste.

mot[ed]en, disputed, 105; OE. motian.

mounte, 487; OE. munt; cp. OF. mont.

mousede, mused, 140; OF. muser. moued, pt. 3s. moved, 546; pp. mouede, 48; OF. movoir. mukkede, manured, 279; cp. ON. moka; Dan. muge.

mukkyng, manuring, 142.

multiplye, inf. 589; OF. multiplier.

my, pron. poss. 3; myn, 50, 177; OE. mīn.

myche, much, 276, 511; comp. mo, 308; more, 165; adv. sup. moste, 292; OE. micel, mycel, māra, mā (adv.), mæst.

myche-whate, many different things, 105; OE. mycel + hwæt. myddes, middle, 29; myddis, 87;

cp. OE. to middes.

mydle, v. medill. myghte, v. may.

mylde, 665; OE. milde.

myldely, 12; OE. mildelice.

myn, v. my.

mynde, mind, attention, 649; OE. (ge)mynd.

myne, inf. call to mind, 530; ON. minna.

my[n]tid, pp. attempted move), 48; OE. myntan.

myrthe, joy, 316; pl. mirthes, 1; OE. myrgb.

mys-done, pp. maltreated, 359; OE. misdön.

my-selfe, 269; my-seluen, 203; OE. mē self.

mysse, defect, sin, 641; OE. missan, vb.; cp. Du. mis, error. mystes, 12; OE. mist.

name, n. 134; pl. names, 108; OE. nama.

name, pt. 1s. took, 86; 3s. 539; OE. niman.

namede, pp. 167; OE. (ge)namian. nayles, pl. 554; OE. nægl.

naymely, especially, 607; OE. nama+-ly.

naytly, thoroughly, dexterously, quickly, 108, 457; nayttly, 554; ON. neytr + -ly.

nayttede, practised, 607; ON. neytà.

ne, not, 507; ne ... ne, neither ... nor, 117; OE. ne.

nede, need, 327; OE. ned.

neghede, approached, 573; OE. $n\bar{e}ah$, adv.

nekke, neck, 89; OE. hnecca. nese, nose, 45; nesse, scent, 99; cp. MDu. nese.

neuen, inf. name, 108, 297; pp. neuened, 580; ON. nefna.

no, v. none.

noble, 280; noblee, 251; OF. noble.

noghte, not, 288; nott, 536; OE. nāwiht.

nombles, entrails, 86: OF. numbles.

none, no one, 36; no, no, 47; OE. nān.

nones, nonce, 25; for the n. = for then ones; OE. bæm, anes. nott, v. noghte.

nober, no n. = non ober, none other, 390; OE. ofer.

now, 166; OE. nū.

nowmbron, pr. 3 pl. number, 308; OF. nombrer.

noyede, pt. 3 s. annoyed, 573; OF. (a)noier, (a)nuier, (?) †nuire, noire.

nygromancye, necromancy. magic, 607; OF. nygromancie. nyne, 297; OE. nigon. [nynety], 308; OE. nigortig.

of, 1; in, 313; for, 477; from, 313, 373; adv. off, 68, 79, 89, 212, 551; OE. of.

ofte, often, 141; OE. oft. oke, oak, 95; OE. āc.

olde, 423; sup. aldeste, earliest, 300; eldeste, 464; OE. eald; OM. ald.

one, one, 483; adv. alone, 117, 149: OE. an.

one, on, 7, 21, 149, 236; OE. on.

one[8], once, 180; OE. ānes. opynede, pp. opened, 535; OE. openian.
or, 5; OE. obbe; early ME. over. oryent, east, 334; OF. orient. ober, others, 15, 299; othire, 109; othere, 139; OE. ōver. oure, pron. poss. 486; OE. ūre. ouper, either, 271; owthir, or, 472; OE. āhwæver. ouer, over, 185; OE. ofer. ownn, 177; OE. āgen. owte, out, 55, 79; OE. ūt.

paleys, palace, 319; OF. palais. pappis, breasts, 176; cp. ENorw. dial. pappe. paramours, amorously, 305; paramoures, 612; used as n. pl. paramours, lady-loves, 172, 176; OF. par amours. parfourme, inf. perform, 205; OF. parfourmer. parkes, 145; OE, pearruc. pase, pass, path, 296; OF. pas. passe, inf. 296; pt. 3 s. paste, 325; pp. passed, 296; pt. 3 pl. surpassed, 421; OF. passer. passyoun, 555; OF. passiun. pastures, 280; pastours, 146; OF. pasture. 82; paunch. pawnche. paw[n]che, 84; ONF. panche. paynymes, pagans, 421; OF. painime. penn, feather, quill, 232; OF. penne. penyes, pennies, 187; OE. pening, penig. peple, 431; OF. peuple. perche, pierce, 82; ONF. perchier. pereles, peerless, 399; OF. per +-less. perilous, 470; AF. perillous. perles, pearls, 120; OF. perle. perry, precious stones, 129; OF. pierrie.

perset, pierced, 380; OF. percer. pervynke, periwinkle, 9; OE. peruince; ONF. pervenke. peteuosely, piteously, 172; OF. piteus + -ly. philozophire, 587; cp. OF. philosophe. piliole, 'penny-royal', wild thyme, 9; OF. puliol. playstere, salve, 176; OE. plaster, OF. plastre. pleynede, pt. 3s. lamented, 172; OF. plaign-, stem of plaindre. ploughe-londes, ploughlands, 280; late OE. ploh + land. polayle, poultry, 144; polaille. pompe, 187; OF. pompe. poo, peacock, 365; OE. pāwa. portours, carriers, 241; porteour. pouders, powders, 590; OF. poudre. powndes, 129; OE. pund. poynte, 82; for bat p., for that very thing, 380; OF. point. praye, booty, 341; OF. preie. prayed, pt. 3s. 430; prayede, 353; OF. preier. praysed, pp. 387, 449; OF. preisier. presanttes, pl. presents, 144; OF. present. presse, throng, 612; prese, 368; OF. presse. prestis, priests, 646; OE. preost. preued, v. prouen. price, v. pryce. pride, 187, 633; late OE. prvte; cp. ON. pryði; OF. prūt, prūd. primrose, 9; OF. primerose. prise, v. pryce. priste, prompt, keen, 421, 618; OF. prest. pristly, readily, 241; OF. prest +-ly. profers, pl. promises, 205; AF. profre; OF. poroffrir, vb.

profettis, profits, 146; OF. profit.

prophete, 449; OF. prophète. prouen, inf. prove, 205, 532; pp. preued, 328; OF. pruev-, strong stem of prover.

prowde, proud, 319; proude, 305; sup. prowdeste, 612; late OE. prūt, prūd; ON. prūŏr;

OF. prūd.

pryce, price, value, 192; pryse, 449; price, 129; used as adj. excellent, 628; prise, 328; pryce, 387; OF. pris.

prynce, 324; OF. prince.

pulle, inf. 319; pt. 1s. pullede, 84; OE. pullian.

purches, n. purchase, 145; OF. purchas.

purches, inf. purchase, 192; pt. 1s. purcheste, 280; OF. purchacier.

pu[r]filis, borders for robes, 144; OF. porfil.

purse, 146; OE. purs.

puttis, pr. 3s. puts, 232; 3pl. putten, 241; pt. 1s. putt, 84; pp. put, 324; OE. putian.

puysonede, poisoned, 399; OF. poisonner, puisnier.

pyne, suffering, 555; OE. *pin; cp. OE. pinian, vb.

[pyth], marrow, 232; OE. piða.

quelled, pt. 3 pl. killed, 233; OE. cwellan.

quene, queen, 304; qwene, 626; OE. cwen.

querrye, quarry, 233; OF. cuirée. quo[p]es, pr. 3s. whoops, 233; OF. houper; (?) cp. OE. hwopan, to threaten.

quotes, pr. 3 s. cries 'ho', hoots, 234; (?) = ME. hūten.

quyppeys, pr. 3s. whips, 234; cp. MDan. hvippe.

quysses, pr. 3 s. makes a whizzing

5.

or whirring noise, 234; ON. hvissa.

qwene, v. quene.

radde, afraid; for r., by reason of being afraid, 429; ON. hræddr. rakill, hasty, rash, 481; etym.

unknown.
ranne, pt. 3 pl. ran, 429; OE.

rinnan.
rase, at a r., at one rush, 73; ON.
rās; OE. ræs.

raughte, pt. 1 s. reached, caught hold of, 75; 3 pl. raughten, extended, 29; OE. ræcan.

rawnsone, inf. ransom, 634; pt. 3s. rawns[on]ede, 414; rawnnsunte, 514; OF. ransonner.

raylede, pp. arranged in a row, adorned, 119, 128; OF. reiller. raynes, reins, 131; OF. rene, rainne.

reche, pr. 3 s. subj. may reck, care, 447; OE. reccan.

reches, riches, 141, 282, 634; OF. richesse.

rede, red, 119, 429; OE. rēad. rede, inf. read, 250, 425; OE. rēdan.

redely, readily, 107, 166; redily, 208; OE. (ge)rade+-ig+-ly. refte, pp. bereft of, 563; OE.

reāfian.

reghte, v. righte.

Regum, the book of Kings, 425; L. regum, gen. pl.

reken, inf. recount, 107; pt. 3s. rekened, 141; pp. rekkende, 166; OE. (ge)recenian.

releues, relieves, 377; OF. relever. relikes, relics, 556; OF. relique. renke, man, 137; pl. renkes, 253, 346, 425; OE. rinc.

rent, pt. 1s. tore away, 87; OE. rendan.

rent, revenue, 634; pl. renttis, 186; renttes, 141, 282; OF. rente.

rere, inf. raise, cause to fly up, 217; pp. rerede, set going, 453; OE. ræran.

rescowe, inf. rescue, recover, 341; OE. rescoure.

resorte, pt. 3 s. betook itself, 58; OF. resortir.

reuelle, inf. revel, 253; OF. reveler.

reuere, river-bank, hawkingground, 208; OF. rivere, reviere.

rewed, pt. impers. caused regret, 562; OE. hrēowan.

rialeste, v. ryalle.

riche, rich, splendid, 9, 250; sup. richeste, 119; rycheste, 320; OE. rīce.

richely, splendidly, 29; OE. rice +-ly.

rigge, back, 78; OE. hrycg. righte, adj. 75; adv. straight, 339; reghte, 73; OE. reht, ribt.

riste, rest, 572; OE. rest. ritt, pt. 1s. 75; ritte, 73; OE. *rittan = OHG. rizzan.

roddes, rods, 217; OE. rodd. rode, rood, cross, 555; OE. rod.

rode, v. ryde.

romance, romance, tales of chivalry, 250; OF. romans.

rose, 119; OF. rose.

rosette, russet, 137; rosett, 261; OF. rosset, roset.

rothelede, rattled, spoke rapidly, 261; (?) cp. OE. hrætel-wyrt, rattlewort.

rowmly, largely, 137; OE. rümlice.

rownnde, round, 468; OF. rund.

rubyes, 128; OF. rubi.

ryalle, royal, 186; sup. rialeste,

320; OF. rial.

ryalls, royal antlers, the second branch of a stag's horn, lying immediately above the browantler, 29; OF. rial, adj.; cp. surryals.

ryally, royally, 341; OF. rial +-ly.

rycheste, v. riche.

ryde, inf. 208; pt. 3s. rode, 341; overran, 514; OE. rīdan.

ryfe, plentiful, 282; late OE. ryfe; ON. rifr.

rygalte, sovereignty, 598; OF. regal + ty; cp. OF. rial.

ryngen, pr. 3 pl. ring, 214; OE. hringan.

ryotte, dissipation, 253; OF. riote.

sadde, solid, 333; OE. sæd. sadill, saddle, 130; OE. sædol. sadly, firmly, 322; OE. sæd + -ly.

sal-jeme, salt gem, a kind of crystal salt, 591; med. L. sal gemma.

sall, v. schall.

salpetir, saltpetre, 591; OF. salpetre.

same, 157; OE. same, adv.; ON.

samples, examples, 263; sampills, exempla, lessons, 602; aphetic form of OF. essample.

sanke, pt. 3 s. drowned, 437; OE. sincan.

saphirs, sapphires, 126; OF. safir; L. sapphirus.

s[ar]rely (MS. sorely; B. surely), closely, 322; cp. OF. serré, in close order.

Sathanas, Satan, adversary, 438; L. (Vulgate) Satanās.

satte, v. sitt.

sattillede, settled, 437; OE. setlan.

saule, v. soule.

sauage, fierce, 616; OF. sauvage. sawe, v. see.

sawes, sayings, 602; OE. sagu. sawtries, psalteries, psalms, 162; OF. sauterie.

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sayde, pt. 3 s. 161; sayd, 195; seyde, 173; OE. secgan. sayled, sailed, 489; OE. seglan.

saylen, pr. 3 pl. assail, 225; pt.3 s. saylede, 534; 3 pl. sayled, 303; OF, asaillir.

sayn, adj. saint, 487; sayne, 557; pl. n. sayntes, 162; OF. saint.

schadowe, image, 291; OE. sceadu, oblique case sceadwe.

schall, pr. 1s. 103; sall, 168; 2s. schalte, 257; pt. 3 s. scholde, 36; OE. sceal, sceolde.

OE. schame, disgrace, 471; sceamu.

schapen, pp. shaped, 114; schapyn, 137; OE. scieppan.

schawes, thickets, woods, 4, 661; OE. sceaga.

schelfe, shelf, seat, 661; OE. scilfe.

schepe, sheep, 443; OE. sceap. schewe, inf. show, appear, 115, 275; OE. scēawian.

schewere, mirror, 291; OE. scēawere.

schirle, purely, 646; OE, scīr+

scho, she, 540; dat. acc. hir, 20; OE. sēo, hire.

scholde, v. schall.

scholdire, shoulder, 54; pl. scholdirs, 79; OE. sculdor.

schote, inf. shoot, 43; OE. sceo-

schotte, n. shot, 4; OE. (ge)-

schryue, imp. pl. shrive, 646; OE. scrīfan.

schunte, imp. pl. avoid, 291; (?) cp. OE. scyndan; ON. skynda; OHG. scuntan, to hasten.

schurtted, amused, 661; OE. scyrtan, to shorten.

schutt, inf. shut, conclude, 585; OE. scyttan.

s[clis]te, (MS. sisilte = siliste),

sliced, 70: OF, esclicier, esclissier.

seche, inf. seek, 546; pr. 1 s. sek[e], 269; 3s. seches, 63; pt. 1 s. soughte, 83; 3 s. soghte, departed, 537; 3 pl. soughten, 434; OE. sēcan,

seconde, 136; OF. second.

see, sea, 333; OE. sæ.

see, inf. 70, 150; pr. 1s. seghe, 263; pt. 1s. 25, 103; 3s. seghe, 509, 512; sawe, 512; pt. 3s. subj. see, 501; OE. seon.

sege, seat (used technically, 'to bring to s.', to bring to ground), 224; 's. perilous', 470; OF.

sege.

segge, man, 471; OE. secg.

seghe, v. see.

sekir, secure, 635; OE. sicor; L. sēcūrus.

sek[e], v. seche.

selcouthes, pl. wonders, 501; OE. seldan + $c\bar{u}b$.

selfe, seluen, v. my-selfe, thiselfe, hym-seluen, zoureseluen, thaym-seluen.

semblete, pt. 1 s. collected, 83; 3 pl. semble[d], assembled, 322; OF. sembler.

semely, handsome, 30,417: noble. 470; sup. semely[est], 135; ON. sæmiligr.

semyde, pt. 3 s. (it) seemed, 70: hym s., he seemed, 150; ON. sæma.

semys, seams, 126; OE. sēam. sendys, pr. 3 s. 558; OE. sendan. sere, various, 162, 254, 489; separate, 574; ON. ser.

serely, severally, particularly, 218, 225; ON. sērliga.

seruede, pp. deserved, 570; aphetic form of OF. deservir.

seruen, inf. serve, supply, 218; pt. 3 s. seruet, 34; OF. servir. sesone, season, 2; OF. seson.

seison.

sesyn, pr. 3 pl. seize, 225; pt. 3 s. seside, 417; sessede, 419; OF. seisir. sete, seat, 136; sette, 100; ON. sæti. sett, pr. 1s. 269; pt. 1s. 98; 3s. 45, 173; pp. 126; s. of vi. and of fyve, adorned with horns of six and five tines, 31; OE. settan. sett. v. sitt. sette, v. sete. seuen, seven, 567; OE. seofon. sewet, the fat about the kidneys, 83; OF. seu + -et. sewet, v. suede. sewte, pursuit, 63; OF. suite. sexty, sixty, 150; OE. sextig. seyde, v. sayde. siche, such, 317; OE. swilc. sighte, 96; syghte, 286; OE. (ge)sihb. silke, 131; OE. sioloc. siluere, silver, 238; OE. siolfor. sir, 195; pl. sirres, 266; OF. sire. sire, father, 650; OF. sire. sitt, inf. 20, 179; pt. 1s. satte, 100; 3s. 136; satt, 130; sett vp, rose up, 432; OE. sittan. skaterede, pp. scattered, 383; cp. dial. scat, to scatter. skayled, pp. dispersed, 383; (?) 'OScand. *skeila (not found) related to ON. skilja'; N.E.D. skyftede, pp. moved, dispersed, 383; ON. skipta; Dan. skifte. slaughte, slaughter, 314; OE. *sleaht ; cp. wælsleahta, gen. pl. slavne, v, sloughe. sleghe, clever, 36; ON. slægr. sleghely, cleverly, 81; cunningly, 314; ON. slægliga; v. Note. sleghte, sleight, 36, 511; ON. slepe, sleep, 36; OE. slæp, slep. slepeles, for s., by reason of being sleepless, 101; OE. slæp-

lēas.

sleues, sleeves, 125; OAngl. slefe. slitte, slit, 81; cp. OE. slītan; OHG. slizzan. sloghe, v. sloughe. slome, heavy with sleep, 101; cp. OE. slūma; MLG. slūmen, slomen, vb.; Dan. slumme, vb. slomerde, slumbered, 101; cp. MLG. slômeren; late MHG. slummern, slommern. sloughe, pt. 3s. slew, 445; sloghe, 533; pp. slayne, 314; OE. slēan. slynge, sling, 445; cp. MLG. slinge; OHG. slinga. slyppede, slipped, 81; cp. MLG. slippen; ON. sleppa. smale, small, 662; OE. smæl. smote, pt. 1 s. 53; OE. smītan. so, 76; OE. swā. socoure, n. help, 537; OF. socors; AF. succour. sodaynly, suddenly, 636; OF. sodain +-ly. softe, mild, 2; OE. softe. soghte, v. seche. some, 243; OE. sum. somere, summer, 2; OE. sumor. sonde, sand, 333; OE. sand, sond. sonde, message, 442; OE. sand, sond. sondere, in s., asunder, 383; sondire, 231; sondree, 90; OE. sundor. sone, son, 650; OE. sunu. sone, sun, 100; OE. sunne. sone, soon, 58; OE. sõna. soppe, sop, 438; OE, sopp. sore, sorely, 194; OE. sare. sothe, truth, 103; OE. sob. sotted, pt. 3s. dulled, bleared, 286; aphetic form of OF. asoter. sottes, fools, 266; OE. sott. soughte, v. seche. soule, 195; saule, 103; OE. sāwel. sowdane, sultan, 533; OE. soudan; Arab. sultān.

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sowed, pt. impers. it made sore, 286; (?) cp. ON. svīða, Dan. svide, svie, to burn. sownnde, sound, uninjured, 434; OE. sund. sowre, a fourth year buck, so called from its colour, 34; OF. sor, red. sowssches, pr. 3 pl. stir, strike, 218; etym. unknown. spanyells, spaniels, 244; OF. espagneul, a Spanish (dog). sparede, pt. 2s. savedst, 260; OE. sparian. speche, speech, 366; OE. spæc, later form of spræc. spedd, pt. 3s. sped, 541; sped, prospered, 366; pr. 3s. subj. spede, 260; OE. spēdan. spedely, speedily, 541; spedily, 244; OE. (ge)spēdiglīce. speke, inf. speak, 265, 595; pp. spoken, 366; OE. specan, later form of sprecan. spend, inf. 260; OE. spendan. spilles, pr. 2s. perishest, 193; OE. spillan. spitte, pt. 3 s. 550; OE. spittan.

spoken, v. speke. spournede, kicked, 550; OE.

spurnan. spryngen, pr. 3 pl. leap, 244; OE. springan.

staffe, 289; OE. stæf.

stale, firmly, stalwartly, 289; OE. steall, a standing position.

stalkede, pt. 1 s. went softly, 41; 3s. stelkett, 51; OE. stealcian. stalkynge, stalking, 21; OE. stealcung.

stalles, stalls, 190; OE. steall. standerte, standard, 376; OF. estandart.

standes, v. stonde.

stang, pt. 3s. pierced, 446; OE. stingan.

starede, stared, 51; OE. starian. stede, place, 21; OE. stede.

stede, horse, 190; stede bake, horseback, 272; OE. stēda. stele, steel, 446; OE, style; OM.

stele-wede, armour, 200; OM. stēli; OE. wæde.

stelkett, v. stalkede.

sterapis, stirrups, 116; OE. stigrāp.

stiewarde[s], stewards, 147; OE. stigweard.

stiffe, strong, 376; styffe, 272; OE. stīf.

stikkes, sticks, small branches, fragments, 41, 376; OE. sticca. stillen, inf. pacify, 268; OE. stillan.

stilly, quietly, 41; OE. stille +-ly. stirkes, bullocks, 147; OE. stirc. stirre, inf. stir, 47; OE. styrian. stode, v. stonde.

stoken, pp. encased, 200; OE. *stecan; cp. OLG. stekan.

stonde, inf. stand, 47; stonden, 289; pr. 3s. standes, endures, 604; pt. 1s. stode, stood, 21; OE. standan, stondan.

stone, 446; OE. stan.

storrours, storers, 147; OF. estorer, vb.

storye, 306; AF. storie.

stotayde, paused, hesitated, 51 cp. MLG. stutten.

stourre, conflict, 272; OF. estour. streighte, pt. 3s. stretched, 116; OE. streccan.

strenghte, strength, 532; pl. strengthes, 205; OE. streng &u. strikes, pr. 3s. 228; 3 pl. striken, 221; stryken, 219; OE. strican. stryffe, strife, 268; OF. estrif.

styffe, v. stiffe.

stynte, inf. stop, 268; styntan.

suede, pt. 3 s. followed, 382, 567; sewet, 34; OF. suivir.

surryals, crown antlers, 30: OF. sur + rial; cp. ryalles.

swange, v. swynge. swapped, struck, 551; cp. ON. sveipa; OE. swāp, n. swete, sweet, 11; OE. swete. sweuynn, dream, 102; OE. swefen. swiftely, 500; OE. swiftlice. swith, (?) swift, 502; cp. swythe. swyne, swine, 99; OE. swin. swynge, inf. hurl, 500; pt. 3s. swange, 502; OE. swingan. swythe, greatly, quickly, 369; OE. swite; (?) cp. swith. syde, side, 7; OE. side. syghede, sighed, 172; cp. OE. sican. syghte, v. sighte. sykamoure, sycamore, 130; L. sycomorus. syled, pp. glided, sunk, 658; cp. Norw. Sw. dial. sila. synn, sin, 665; OE. synn. synys, signs, 48; OF. sine. sythen, since, 335; OE. sibban.

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tayttely, joyously, nimbly, 219; ON. teitr+-ly. teches, pr. 3 s. teaches, 601; OE. tæcan. techynges, teachings, 604; OE. telle, inf. 103; pr. 1s. tell, 159; 3 s. telles, 306; OE. tellan. telys, pl. teals, 219; cp. Du. teling. tenefull, peevish, 159; OE. teonfull. tentid, gave heed, 313; aphetic form of OF. attenter. tentis, tents, 361; OF. tente. tenyn, pr. 3 pl. tease, 242; pt. pl. teneden, grieved, suffered vexation, 321; OE. teonian. tercelettes, male falcons, 219; tercelettis, 242; AF. tercelet. Testament, 423; L. testamentum. thaire, pron. poss. their, 107; theire, 237; ON. beirra. than, thane, v. then. that, the, 601; OE. \atesat. that, adj. dem. 21; OE. &æt. that, pron. rel. 35; pat, 49; what, 204; him who, 447; OE. Fæt. that, conj. 16; OE. 8æt. thay, they, 367; pay, 13; they, 215; dat. acc. thaym, 67; pam, 226; ON. beir. thaym-seluen, themselves, 498; OE. čæm selfum.

the, def. art. 1; be, 4; be, 54;

thedir, thither, 19; OE. Sider.

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there, there, 23; pare, 400; there, where, 8, 64, 471, 506; ther, 335; OE. 8ær.

there-fro, thence, 97; OE. &ær;

405; then, when, 393; OE.

late OE. če.

theire, v. thaire. theis, v. this.

Sanne, Emne.

ON. frā.

the, v. thoue.

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there-to, in addition, 134; per-to, thynges, 606; OE. bing. tighte, pt. 1 s. drew (from the 32; OE. þærtō. sheath), 79; t. vp, drew up, ther-vndere, underneath, tightened, 44; OE. tyhtan. OE. Zerunder. there-with, 259; OE. pær-wib. tighte \mathbf{vp} , pt. 3 s. set up, 361; (?) OE. tyhtan. thes, v. this. till, until, 180; to, 52; ON. til. they, v. thay. titly, quickly, 613; ON. tītt, adv. thi, thy, 27, 181; thyn, 177; OE. +-ly. to, prep. to, 3; too, 367; adv. to, thikke, thickly, 124; OE. picce. thirde, 152; OE. pridda, pirdda. 53; till, 336, 496; OE. tō. thirtene, 262; OE. prēotēne; v. to-gedire, together, 230; to-Note. gedre, 83; OE. tōgædere. to-gedirs, together, 600; OE. this, 182; pl. thes, 220; theis, 173; thies. 109; OE. Sis, pl. Sæs. togædere + -s. toke, pt. 1 s. took, 79; 3 s. tuke, thi-selfe, thyself, 651; OE. 81(n) + selfum. 313, 569; ON. taka tonge, tongue, 68; OE. tunge. thoghte, v. thynkes. thynke, pr. impers. seems, 637; totheles, toothless, 159; OE. top-OE. byncan. lēas. thynkes, pr. 3s. 484; pt. 1s. toper, the t. = thet oper, the thoghte, 21; OE. pencan. other, 602; OE. þæt öðer. tholede, suffered, 403; OE. bolian. toure, tower, 408; OF. tour. to-warde, 360; OE. toweard. thorowe, v. thurgh. thoue, thou, 206, 207; pou, 175; to-wardes, 23; OE. toweardes. dat. acc. the, 178, 192; OE. &u. townn, town, 659; OE. tūn. towre, n. turn, wheel, flight, 213. thre, three, 104; OE. prēo. threpe, altercation, 268; OE. OF. tour. brēapian, vb. [t]r[a]poure, saddle-cloth, 132; threpen, pr. 3 pl. contend in song, OF. *trapeüre; med.L. trappā-14; pt. 3 pl. threpden, argued, trayfoyles, trefoils, 120; AF. 104; pp. threpid, 262; OE. brēapian. trifoil. threuen, grown up, 133; ON. traylede, trailed, 132; OF. trailler. prifinn, pp. of prifa. tree, 23; OE. treow. thritty, thirty, 133; OE. prītig, trenchore, carving-knife, 79; brittig. OF, tranchoire. thro, bold, 104; ON. þrār. trewe, true, reliable, 326, 408; throly, boldly, eagerly, excel-OE. trēowe. lently, 14, 133; ON. þrāliga. trewloues, true lovers' knots, throstills, throstles, 14; OE. 120; OE. trēowlufu. prostle. tried, pp. chosen, 301; triede, thryfte, thrift, 262; ON. brift. choice, excellent, 120; tryed, thrynges, presses, 368; OE. 525; OF. trier. bringan. triste, trusty, 565, 624; cp. Dan. thurgh, through, 91; thurghe, tröstig. tristyly, 442; thorowe, 238; OE. Surh. firmly, confidently.

boldly, 326.

thyn, v. thi.

troches, small times, 67; OF. troche. trouthe, troth, 290; OE. treowb. trowde, pp. believed, 604; OE. trūwian. tryed, v. tried. tuke, v. toke. tulke, man, 313; ON. tulkr. turnede, pt. 1 s. 23; turned, 67; late OE. turnian; OF. tourner. twayne, both, 30, 432; OE. twegen. twelve, twelve, 402; OE. twelf, twelfe. two, 71; OE. twā. tyde, inf., befall, 471; pr. 3s. subj. 37; pt. 3 pl. tydde, 660;

OE. tīdan.

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pam, v. thay.
pan, than, 15; OE. Sanne.
pare, v. there.
pat, v. that.
pay, v. thay.
pe, pe, v. the.
per-aftir, v. ther-aftir.
per-fore, therefore, 151; OE.
Sar+fore.
per-to, v. there-to.
poghe, though, 243; ON. *poh,
eurlier form of po.
pou, v. thoue.

tylere, handle of a cross-bow,

vmbe, about, 657; OE. ymbe, umbe.

vmbycaste, inf. cast about, 61; OE. umbe + ON. kasta.

vnburneschede, unburnished ('deer are said to burnish their heads when rubbing off the dead velvet or skin from the horns'), 26; un+OF. burniss, lengthened stem of burnir.

vncertayne, 636; un+OF. certain.

vnclosede, pp. unclosed, open,
336; un + OF. clos- stem of
clore.

vndide, ruined, 311; OE. undön. vndire-3ode, undermined, 283; OE. undergān.

vnpereschede, undestroyed, 431; un + OF. periss-, lengthened stem of perir.

vnsele, misfortune, 438; OE. unsæl.

vn-to, 386; cp. OSax. untō; Goth. und = OE. $\bar{o}b$.

vp, up, 43, 68; vpe, 240; OE. up. vppon, v. appon.

vp-rightes, upright, 116; OE. uprihte +-s.

vs, v. we.

vttire, out, 66, 381; OE. ūttor.

vanyte, vanity, 640; pl. vanytes, 640; OF. vanité. vanne[st], 640; OF. vain. ver[rlayle, verily, 594; OF. verai

ver[r]ayle, verily, 594; OF. verai

vertus, powers, 594; OF. vertu. vertwells, small rings on a hawk's furniture, 238; OF. vertueil.

waggynge, moving, 40; cp. MSw. wagga.

waitted, v. wayte.

wake, inf. keep awake, watch, 257; pt. 3 s. woke, 35; OE. wacan.

wakkened, awoke, 657; OE. wæcnan.

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warned, pt. 3 s. 35; OE. wearnian. warnestorede, pt. 3 s. furnished, 412; OF. warnesture, n.

waryed, accursed, 536; OE. wergan.

who, whoever, 33; OE. hwa. was. v. bene. watirs, waters, 589; OE. wæter. wayes, paths, 37; OE. weg. wayte, inf. guard, 99; pt. 1s. waitted, watched, 40; waytted, 657; 3s. wayttede, 46; pp. 49; OF. waiter. we, pron. pers. 422; dat. acc. vs, 664; OE. we. weddis, pr. 3 s. weds, 386; OE. weddian. wedres, airs, breezes, 2; OE. weder. wele, wealth, 149, 637; OE. wela. wele-neghe, well-nigh, 193; OE. wel neah. welthe, wealth, 252; OE. wela +-th. wende, inf. turn, 653; go, 632; pr. 3s. wendes, 505; pt. 1s. went, 3; 3s. 37; wente, 404; OE. wendan. werdes, destiny, chances, luck, 3; OE. wyrd. were, man, 581; OE. wer. were, war, 313, 544; OF. werre; OHG. werra. were, v. bene, where. werkes, pl. works, 311; werlde, world, 149, 298; worlde. 332; OE. weorld. whare, v. where. whatt, pron. rel. 501; whate, 103; whatte, 294; OE. hwæt. whedir-wardes, whither, 294; OE. hwider + weardes. when, 1; OE. hwænne. where, adv. rel. 507; were, 611; whare, 294; OE. hwær. where, adv. interr. 185; where, 626; OE. hwær. while, n. time, 23, 101; OE. hwīl.

while, conj. while, 270; till,

whills, whilst, 641; whils, till,

398, 535, 575; OE. hwīl, n.

whitte, white, 156; OE. hwit.

490; OE. hwīl + -es.

wiche, which, 293; OE. hwile. wielde, inf. possess, 609; OE. (ge)wieldan. wiesly, prudently, 40; wiesely, 412; OE. wislice. will, n. 352, 406; OE. willa. will, pr. 2 pl. 106; 3 pl. willen, 209; pt. 3s. wolde, 191, 327; OE. willan. wilnede, pt. 3 pl. desired to come, 386; OE. wilnian. wirchip, worship, honour, 175, 276; wirchipe, 252, 312, 519; OE. weorbscipe. wisdome, 601; OE. wisdom. wiste, v. wot. with, 8; among, 458, 605; OE, wib. witnesses, pr. 3s. 412; OE. witnes, n. witt, mind, intelligence, 149, 193; OE. witt. wittyly, cautiously, 46; OE. witig + -ly. wodde, wood, 3; OE. wudu. woke, v. wake. wolde, v. will. woman, 315; OE. wifmann. wondes, pr. 3s. hesitates, 611; OE. wandian. wondirfully, 601; OE. wundorfull + -lv. wondres, pr. 3s. wonders, 505; OE. wundrian. wonne, imp. s. dwell, remain, 193; pt. 3s. wonnede, 603; OE. wunian. wonnen, v. wynne. woo, woe, 257; OE. wa. wordes, 173: OE. word. worlde, v. werlde. worthe, adj. worth, 129: OE. weorb. worthes, pr. 3s. becomes, 637; pp. worthen, 461, 485, 648; OE. weor an. worthieste, 404; OE. weordig. wot, pr. 1 s. know, 293; pt. 1 s.

GLOSSARY

wiste, 283; 3s. 298, 581; OE. witan.

wothe, danger, 37; ON. $v\bar{a}\delta i$. woundede, pt. 3s. 312; pp. 571;

OE. wundian. wrought, 487;

pp. 315, 648; OE. wyrcan, worhte.

wronge, 648; ON. rangr; late

OE. wrang.

wryghede, pp. discovered, 97; (?) = wreighede; OE. wrēgan. wrythen, pr. 3 pl. twist, 230; OE. wrīšan.

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wynter, winters, years, 262; OE.

wintru, pl.

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TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES', ETC.

'Tho nine, crowned, be very exemplair Of all honour longing to chivalry, And those, certain, be called the nine worthy;'

The Flower and the Leaf, 502-4.

I. LATIN HYMN

(Attributed to the XIth century.)1

Audi, tellus, audi, magni maris limbus, Audi omne, quod vivit sub sole, Huius mundi decus et gloria Quam sint falsa et transitoria, Ut testantur haec temporalia, Non in uno statu manentia. Nulli valet regalis dignitas, Nulli valet corporis quantitas. Nulli artium valet profunditas, Nulli magnae valent divitiae, Nullum salvat genus aut species. Nulli prodest auri congeries. Transierunt rerum materies, Ut a sole liquescit glacies. Ubi Plato, ubi Porphyrius? Ubi Tullius aut Virgilius? Ubi Thales, ubi Empedocles, Aut egregius Aristoteles? Alexander ubi, rex maximus? Ubi Hector, Troiae fortissimus? Ubi David, rex doctissimus? Ubi Salomon, prudentissimus? Ubi Helena Parisque roseus? Ceciderunt in profundum ut lapides: Quis scit, an detur eis requies? Sed tu, Deus, rector fidelium, Fac te nobis semper propitium, Quum de malis fiet iudicium!

II. From DE MUNDI VANITATE, attributed to Walter Map

(Probably XIIth century.) 2

Dic ubi Salamon, olim tam nobilis?

Vel Samson ubi est, dux invincibilis?

Vel pulcher Absolon, vultu mirabilis?

Vel dulcis Jonathas, multum amabilis?

¹ From Moll's Hymnarium, p. 138; translated by J. A. Symonds, in Wine, Women, and Song ('King's Classics', 1907, p. 181).

² Thomas Wright: Latin Poems attributed to Watter Mapes, Camden

Society, 1841, p. 149.

Quo Caesar abiit, celsus imperio?

Vel Dives splendidus totus in prandio?

Dic ubi Tullius clarus eloquio?

Vel Aristoteles, summus ingenio?

III. From A LUVE RUN, by THOMAS DE HAILES

(Probably before 1240.)

Hwer is Paris and Heleyne,

pat weren so bryht and feyre on bleo?

Amadas and Ideyne;

Tristram, Yseude, and alle peo?¹

Ector, wip his scharpe meyne;

And Cæsar, riche of wor[1]des feo?

Heo beop iglyden vt of pe reyne,

So pe schef[t] is of pe cleo.²

(Old English Miscellany, E. E. T. S.)

IV. CURSOR MUNDI (early XIVth century)

[PROLOGUE.]

(MS. R 38, Trinity College, Cambridge.)

Men zernen iestes for to here,
And romaunce rede in dyuerse manere;
Of Alisaunder pe conqueroure,
Of Julius Cesar pe emperoure,
Of Greke & Troye the longe strif,
pere mony mon lost his lif:
Of Bruyt pat baron bold of honde,
Furste conqueroure of Engelonde;
Of King Arthour pat was so riche
Was noon in his tyme him liche;
Of wondres pat his knyztes felle
And auntres duden men herde telle,
As Wawayn, Kay, & opere ful abul,
For to kepe pe Rounde Tabul:

¹ So I rearrange the text; Morris reads 'Amadas, Tristram, and Dideyne'; MS. 'Amadas and Dideyne. tristram'.

2 Probably = As the arrow from the string. [(?) 'Corn from the hill-

side,' Camb. Eng. Lit., vol. i, p. 233].

How Kyng Charles & Rouland faust, With Sarazines nolde bei neuer be saust, Of Tristram & of Isoude be swete, How bei wib loue firste gan mete; Of kyng Ion & of Isombras; Of Idoyne & of Amadas; Storyes of dyuerse binges Of princes, prelates, & of kynges Mony songes of dyuerse ryme, As Englisshe, Frensshe, & Latyne.

V. From PHILIPPE MOUSKES' 'CHRONIQUE'

(XIIIth century.)

Des .iij. lois vous sai je bien dire Les .iij. mellors, tot sans desdire. OGIERS, au dit des anciens, Si fu li mieudres crestiens. Li mieudres paiens fu ETOR: Cil ot le cuer plus gros d'un tor; Ja, s'il n'eüist la vie outrée, Troie ne fust si desiertée; Etor trençoit os, car et niers, Vers lui ne duroit fus ne fiers. Li mieudres juïs, li plus preus Fu, pour voir, JUDAS MACABEUS. Des .iij. lois vous ai je nommés Les .iij. c'on a mellors clamés, Et pour Ogier et pour Rollant Vous ai remis Ector avant Et Judas Macabeu le fort Dont sainte glise fait recort. (11.7672-89.)

VI. EXTRACT FROM 'LES VŒUX DU PAON'

By Jacques de Longuyon, circa 1312.

(From MS. Bibl. Nat. 1590, fol. 141, etc.)

Car puis que Diex ot fait Adam a son plaisir Ne nasqui chevalier, qui en faiz maintenir D'une seule jornée peüst autant soffrir.

1 MS. fait.

Voirs est qu'Ector fu large desmesuréement, Car, si com les poetes nous vont ramentevant, Quant li rois Menelaus a son efforcement Vint assegier en Troie le riche roi Priant Pour Elayne sa fame qu'il amoit durement Que Paris ot ravie ainz cel assamblement, Hector¹ de la cité prist le gouvernement, Es issues c'on fist par son enortement Tua · XIX rois sus son cors deffendant, Et amiraus et contes, ce croi je, plus de .c. Puis l'occist Acillez mout traiteusement.

ALIXANDRE le large, dont je vois ci parlant, Qui vainqui Nicholas et Daire le persant Et occist la vermine des desers d'Oriant Et saisi Babyloine la fort cité plaisant Ou il morut aprés par enpoisonnement, Reconquist en 2 xij. anz trés viguereusement Quanque l'en puet trouver dessouz le firmament; N'encor ne li plut mie, ainz dist apertement A ses barons .j. jor qu'il tenoit parlement Qu'il avoit poi de terre en son gouvernement.⁵

CESAR prist Engleterre qui tot conmunement Iert nommée Bretaingne, il ala longuement Et soumist as Roumainz le roi Casibillant. Pompée son serouge qui l'aloit guerroiant Desconfist il en Grece et tel plenté de gent Qu'il n'est home qui onques en veïst autretant. Puis prist Alexandrie la riche et la manant, Aufrique, Arrabe, Egypte et Surie ensement, Et les illes de mer dessi en Occident. Paien furent cil .iij. dont je puis dire tant Que meilleurs ne nasqui aprez eus ne devant.

Escrit truis en la Bible et el Viel Testament Les nons des .iij. juïs qui anciennement Firent tant c'on les loe partout communement Et loera, je croi, si qu'a definement. Josué vous devons nonmer premierement. Par sa sainte priere, par son souhaidement, Parti le flun Jordain a travers droitement, Et passerent a sec sans nul enconbrement Les Juïs qu'il avoit en son gouvernement.

¹ MS. Hestor.

² MS. ex.

³ Allusion à deux passages du roman d'Alexandre, éd. Michelant, p. 13, v. 16 et p. 249, v. 8.

Vers midi guerroia cil preudons longuement, Ou .xij. rois conquist assés parfaitement, Lesquels il destruist toz assés honteusement, Et ne lor lessa terre, cité ne casement Qu'il ne feïst torner a son conmandement.

DAVID remist a mort Golias le jaiant Qui de lonc ot .vij. coutez ou plus, mien esciant, Et maint felon paien fist venir a noient, Et fut en grans batailles partout si bien cheant C'onques hons nel pot rendre vaincu ne recreant. De cestui puet chascuns dire certainement Qu'il fu j. sains pechierre de hardi convenant.

JUDAS MACABEÜS restoit de tel talent Que se tout ceuz del siecle li fussent au devant Armez com por bataille felenesse et nuisant, Ja tant comme il eüst o soi de remanant .I. home contre .x. nel veïst on fuiant. Cil Judas Macabée dont je vois rimoiant Mist Apolonius a mort en conbatant, S'occist Anthiocus qu'il aloit guerroiant Et Nicanor aussi et maint autre tirant.

III. crestïenz resai tiex c'onques hons vivant
Ne vit a meillor d'eus porter hiaume luisant.
D'Artus qui tint Bretaingne va le bruit tesmoingnant
Que il mata Ruston, j. jaiant, en plain champ,
Qui tant par estoit fort, fier et outrecuidant
Que de barbes de rois fist fere j. vestement,
Liquel roi li estoient par force obeïssant;
Si vost avoir l'Artus, mais il i fu faillant.¹
Sus le mont saint Michiel en roccist j. si grant
Que tuit cil del païs en furent merveillant.
En plusors autrez lieus, se l'estoire ne ment,
Vainqui cil rois Artus maint prince outrequidant.

CHARLEMAINE qui France ot toute a son commant Suspedita Espaingne dont morut Agoulant. Desiier de Pavie toli son tenement Et sormonta les Saisnes si trés parfaitement Par mainte grant bataille, par maint toueillement, Qu'il furent, maugré eus, a son commandement. El lieu ou Diex morut pour nostre sauvement Remist il le baptesme et le saint sacrement.

¹ See Note, 1. 481.

Bien redoit on nomer haut et apertement GODEFROI DE BUILLONT qui par son hardement Es plains de Roumenie desconfit Solimant, Et devant Anthioche l'amirant Courberant Le jor que l'en occist le fil a roi Soudant. De Jerusalem ot puis le couronnement Et en fu rois clamez j. an tant seulement.

Or ai je devisé tout ordenéement Les .IX. meillors qui fussent puis le conmandement Que Diex ot fait le ciel et la terre et le vent. Il se maintindrent bien et assés longuement; Mais onques en lor vies, en .j. jor seulement, Ne souffrirent tel paine ne tel encombrement Com Porrus qui ains ot voué i si hautement Souffri en la jornée dont je tieng parlement.

VII. From THE SCOTTISH VERSION OF THE PRE-CEDING, 'THE BUIK OF THE MOST NOBLE AND VAILZEAND CONQUEROUR ALEXAUNDER', or, 'THE AVOWIS OF ALEXANDER'

Composed 1438.

Thocht sum men say his vndertaking May nocht fulfillit be in all thing, At the last for the best doere Men suld him hald baith far and neir. For sen that God first Adame wrocht, In all this warld ane knycht was nocht, That anerly at ane I owne. aucht sa auansit for to be. Suith it is gude Hector was wicht, and out of mesure mekill of mycht, For at the poynt beris witnessing, Quhen Menelayus the mychty King assegit in Troy the King Priant, For Elene that was sa plesant, That Parys forrow that semble, Reuisit for hir fyne beaute, Hector on him the gouerning, tuke of the town and the leding, Into the half thrid zeir all anerly, that he loued throw cheualry.

^{1 &#}x27;Allusion aux Vaux prononcés par Porus'; P.M.

Of crouned Kingis he slew hynetene, But dukes and erlis as I wene, That was sa fell it is ferly, Syne Achilles slew him tressonabilly. Gude Alexander that sa large was. That wan Daurus and Nicholas, And slew in Inde the great vermyne. Babylon he conquered syne, Quhare he deit throw poysoning, Rang seuin zeir as nobill King, Wan all this warld vnder the firmament, That on ane day in plane parliament, He said he had in allkin thing, Our lytill land to his leuing. Cesar alsua that Ingland wan, All that was callit Bertane than, To thame of Rome maid vnder lout, Cassabylon the King sa stout. In Grece alsua discumfit he, Pompeyus his mauch is sic plenty Of men that neuer zit quhare, War sene sa mony as thay ware. Syne Alexander the great Citte, Affrik and Asia als wan he, Egypt alsua and Syrie And mony vther fare countre, And the yles of the sey all hale, that war sa mony withouttin fale. Thir war Paganes that I of tald. And I dar suere and for suith hald that better than thay war neuer borne, Efter that tyme na zit beforne.

Of thir thre Iowes we find it writ, the auld Testament witnesis it, thay did sa mekle that commonly All men thame lufis generally; And as I trow sall lufe thame ay, Euermare quhill domisday. Iusua suld first named be, That was ane man of great pouste, the flum Iordane partit he euin in tua, throw his wisdome and prayers alsua, And stude on ilk syde as ane wall, Quhill his men our passed all; towart the south he taryed lang, Quhare tuelf Kingis wan he styth and strang,

And destroyit thame velanusly, And reft thame there landis halely: they turned to his commandement, And to him war thay obedient. Dauid slew Golvath with strenth. That seuin halfe ellis had of lenth, And mony ane fell pagan he brocht Maugre thairis all to nocht, And was ouer all sa wele doand. That he was neuer recryand. Bot in battell stout and hardy. Men may say of him tantingly. Iudas Machabeus I hecht, Was of sik vertew and sik micht, that thoch thay all that lyfe micht lede Come shorand him as for the dede, Armit all for cruell battale, He wald not fle forouttin faill. Quaill he with him of alkin men Micht be ay ane agenes ten. That Iudas that I heirof tell Slew Antiochus the fell. And Appollonius alsua, Nicanor als and mony ma. Of thir thre christin men I can tell heir, That neuer na better in warld weir, Arthur, that held Britane the grant, Slew Rostrik that stark gyant, That was sa stark and stout in deid, that of Kingis beirdis he maid ane weid, The quhilk Kingis alluterly War obeysant to his will all halely. He wald have had Arthouris beird, And failzeit for he it right weill weird; On mount Michaell slew he ane, that sik ane freik was neuer nane, and ma gyantis in vther places sua, Bot gif the story gabbing ma. Charles of France slew Agoment, and wan Spane to his commandement, and slew the duke of Pauy, and wan the Saxones halely, Throw great battell and hard feehting, that thay war all at his bidding; and guhair God deit for our sauetie, He put the haill christintie; Men aucht to lufe him commonly, Baith in peirt and privaty.

Gaudefere the Bullony throw cheualry, Into the plane of Romany, Wincust the michty Salamant, And before Anthioche Corborant, Quhen the King Sardanus was slane, Than was he king himself allane, Of Ierusalem ane zeir and mare. Thir ar the nyne best that armes bare; I have deuysit yow ordourly, that leuit weill and cheualrusly, Bot neuer thair lyfetyme on ane day, tholit thay sik pyne and sik affray, As Porrus that sa haltanly Avowit had throw cheualry, Amang the ladeis that war fre, Quhen the poun to deid brocht he.

(pp. 402-6.)

VIII. From HUCHOWNE'S 'MORTE ARTHURE', c. 1380

(The Interpretation of Arthur's Dream.)

Take kepe sitte of other kynges, and kaste in thyne herte. That were conquerours kydde, and crownnede in erthe; The eldeste was Alexandere, that alle the erthe lowttede: The tother Ector of Troye, the cheualrous gume; The thirde Iulyus Cesare, that geant was holdene, In iche jorné jentille, a-juggede with lordes; The ferthe was sir Iudas, a justere fulle nobille, The maysterfulle Makabee, the myghttyeste of strenghes; The fyfte was Iosue, that joly mane of armes, That in Ierusalem oste fulle myche joye lymppede; The sexte was Dauid the dere, demyd with kynges One of the doughtveste that dubbede was ever. ffor he slewe with a slynge, be slevghte of his handis, Golyas the grette gome, grymmeste in erthe; Syne endittede in his dayes alle the dere psalmes, That in the sawtire ere sette with selcouthe wordes. The two clymbande kynges, I knawe it for-sothe, Salle Karolus be callide, the kyng sone of Fraunce; He salle be crowelle and kene, and conquerour holdene, Couere be conqueste contres vnewe: He salle encroche the crowne that Crist bare hym selfene, And that lifeliche launce, that lepe to his herte, When he was crucyfiede one crose, and alle the kene navlis. Knyghtly he salle conquere to Cristyne men hondes.

The tother salle be Godfraye, that Gode schalle reuenge One the Gud Frydaye with galyarde knyghtes; He salle of Lorrayne be lorde, be leefe of his fadire, And syne in Ierusalem myche joye happyne, ffor he salle couer the crosse be craftes of armes, And synne be corownde kynge, with krysome enoynttede; Salle no duke in his dayes siche destanye happyne, Ne siche myschefe dreghe, whene trewthe salle be tryede! ffore-thy ffortune the fetches to fulfille the nowmbyre, Atts nynne of the nobileste namede in erthe: This salle in romance be redde with ryalle knyghttes, Rekkenede and renownde with ryotous kynges, And demyd one domesdaye, for dedis of armes, ffor the doughtyeste that euer was duelland in erthe: So many clerkis and kynges salle karpe of source dedis, And kepe soure conquestez in cronycle for euer! 11. 3406-46.

IX. THIS WARLD IS VERRA VANITÉ 1

(Prob. end of XIVth century.)

Ŧ

Man, haue mynd and be amend Of all thi mys quhill at bou may; think wele that all thing has ane end, for erd til erd is ordanit ay: think wele, man, bat bou mon wend out of bis warld a wilsome way, for with na kynrike bou beis kend fra bat bi cors be cled in clay. bi son will seildin for be say be salter; seldin bat we see; ban freindeschip failseis & gude fay: this warld is verra vanité.

II

Veraly may nane divyne
The vanité pat now avowis:
yneuch per-of, I heir of nyne
pe nobillist, quhilk nane now is;
Arthour/ Charlis/ Gothra syne,
Dauid/ Judas/ Josue/ Jowis,

¹ From the Graye MS. First printed by the Editor in the Athenaeum, No. 3883, March 29, 1902.

Julius Cesar the Sar[z]in,¹
Ector pat all Troy in trowis,
Alexander pat all to bowis
To tak tribut of town & tre;
ber lif is gane/and nocht ane now is:
bis warld is verra vanité.

III.

For Dauid [schawis]² in-samplis seir; sindrie we see of Salamo[u]n, quhom of þe welth is went but weir; and fors is failzeit of Sampsoun; [The]³ fairhede at had neuer feyr Is fadit fast of Absoloun; The rioll rynkis ar all in weyr At rass with rioll Jedeoun; and mony thir gay ar gone: now to þis sampill haue gude E, oute of þis countre sen we mon; this warld is verray vanité.

IV

Mony pape ar passit by, patriarkis, prelatis, and preist, kingis & knichtis in company, uncountit curiously vp I kest: women and mony wilsom wy, as wynd or wattir ar gane west: fish, & foule, & froit of tree on feild is nane formit na fest. Riches adew; sen all is drest pat pai may nocht pis dule in dre,4 sen nocht has life pat heir ma lest, this warld is bot a vanité.

\mathbf{v}

Quhar is Plato bat clerc of price, bat of all poetis had no peir? or sit Catoun with his clergiss? or Aristotill bat clerc so cleir? Tulliouss bat wele wauld tiss? to tell his trety[s] wer full teyr! or Virgil bat wes war & wise, and wist all wardly werk but we[i]r?

¹ MS. sergin.

² Not in MS.

⁴ The scribe first wrote 'indure'.

is nane sa dowtit na sa dere, pan but redeming all mon dee: perfor I hauld, quha euir it heir— This warld is verray vanité.

VI.

Ane vthir exsampill suth to say,—
in summeris day full oft is sene
thir emotis in ane hillok ay
rinnand oute befor pin ene;
with litill weit pai wit away,
sa worthis of ws all I wene;
may nane indur our his enday;
bot all our drivis as dew bedene,
pat on the bery bidis bene,
and with a blast away wil be;
quhile girss ar gray, quhile ar pai grene;
this warld is verray vanité.

VII.

To tell of [C]rec[u]ss¹ war full teyr; I have na tyme to tell be teynd: all gais hyne bat euer wes heir, to hevin or hell is be last ende: let neuer be feynd, bat fellon feyr, be fang, bot fra him be defend: beseke God & our lady deir, quhilk sall be sone to sucur send, and with baim be bi lugin lend, & low God quhill bou liffis in lee: now, man, have mynd and be amend,—bis warld is verray vanité.

X. ANE BALLET OF THE NINE NOBLES

(c. 1440: from Fordun's Chronicle, Univ. Lib., Edin.; vide Laing's Select Remains.) 2

DE NOUEM NOBILIBUS.

Hectour of Troy throu hard feichthyngis, In half thrid zeris slew xix kyngis, And ammirallis a hundred and mare, Wyth small folk at vnrackynnit war; He slew sa fell, at wes ferly, Qwham Achilez slew tresnabli.

¹ MS. tretiss.

² Cp. Dr. Craigie's article, Anglia, xxi, to which I am indebted for the emendations in brackets.

Alexander als nobil a kyng, was In xij zeris wan throw hard feichtyng, Al landis vnder the formament. Eqwhethir adai in till parlement, He said, he had but variance, Our litill in till his gouernance.

Julius Cesar wan hailily
The ilis of Grece, and all Surry;
Affrick, Arab, Bretan wan he,
And discumfit his mawche Pompe:
Throw hard batell, and stalward stour,
He was the first was emperour.

The gentill Jew Schir Josue,
[Ane &] xxx kyngis throw weir wan he;
And conquirit the landis also,
The flum Jordan pertit in two
Throw Goddis grace, and strang power;
Men suld hym loff on gret maner.

Dauid slew mychthy Golias, And Philistens at felon was; He wes so wycht, et weill feich[t]and, That he wes neuer sene recriand; Thairfor men call him, loud and still, A trew prophet of hardy will.

Michty Judas Machabeus In bathell slew Antiochus, Appolonius and Nichanore, At in his dais wald neuer shor, No multitud be adred of men, Thoft he war ane eganes ten.

Arthur wan Dace, Spanze, and France, And hand for hand slew tua giantis; Lucius the publik procuratour Of Rome, wytht milleonis in stalwar stour; And in till Pariss Schir Frollo¹ In lystis slew wyth [other] mo.

¹ This personage, who is introduced to exemplify the prowess of Arthur, according to the Chronicles, was a Roman knight, governor of Gaul. His name and that of 'Lucyus the emperour of Rome' are frequently alluded to,

Charles of France slew Aygoland, And wan Spanze fra hethoun [h]and; He slew the sowden of Pavi, And wan the Saxonis halily; And quhar God deid for our safté, He put haly the Christanté.

Godefrey Bolzone slew Solimant, Before Antioche, and Cormorant, Quham he throu ful strak had ourtane, Throu cop and har[n]ez his glave is gane; Sere hethownis he slew throu hard feychtyng, And of Jerusalem a zeir was Kyng.

Robert the Brois throu hard feich[t]yng With few venkust the mychtthy Kyng Off Ingland, Edward, twyse in fycht, At occupit his realme but rycht; [And] sum tyme wes set so hard, At hat nocht sax till hym toward.

3e gude men that thir balletis redis, Deme quha dochtyast was in dedis.

XI. WOURLDLY MUTABILITE

Attributed to Lydgate.

(From Harl. 2255, fol. 128b-31a.)1

So as I lay this othir nyght In my bed, tourning vp-so-doun, Whan Phebus with his beemys bryght Entryd the signe of the lyoun, I gan remembre with-inne my resoun Vpon wourldly mutabilite, And to reccorde wel this lessoun: Timor mortis conturbat me.

I thoughte pleynly in my devise, And gan considre in myn entent How Adam whyloom in paradise Desceyved was of a fals serpent

¹ Koeppel printed stanzas 7, 8, 10, 11, in Anz. f. deutsches Alterthum, 24; Koelbing quoted these stanzas in Englische Studien, xxv; the whole poem has not yet been printed off.

To breke Goddys comaundement, Wheer-thorugh al his posteryte Lernyd by short avisement: Tymor mortis conturbat me.

For etyng of an appyl smal He was exyled froom that place; Sathan maade hym to haue a fall, To lese his fortune and his grace, And froom that gardeyn hym enchace Fulle ferre froom his felicite; And thanne this song gan hym manace: Timor mortis conturbat me.

And had nought been his greet offence, And this greet transgressioun, And also his inobedience Of malice and of presumpcioun, Gyf credence ageyn al resoun To the develys iniquite,

We had knowe no condicioun
Of timor mortis conturbat me.

This lastyd forth al the age,
Ther was noon othir remedye,
The venym myght nevir aswage
Whoos poysoun sprong out of envye
Off pryde, veynglorye and surqued[r]ye,'
And lastyng til tyme of Noye,
And he stood eek in jupartye
Of timor mortis conturbat me.

Froom our fore-fadir this venym cam, Fyndyng nevir noon obstacle, Melchisedech nor of Abraham, Ageyn this poysoun by noon pyacle; But of his seed ther sprang tryacle, Figure of Isaak, ye may rede and see, Restore to lyff by hih myracle Whan timor mortis conturbat me.

Moyses with his face bryght, Which cleer as ony sunne shoon; Josue, that was so good a knyght, That heng the kynges of Gabaoon; Nor the noble myghty Gedeoon Had no poweer nor no powste, For ther famous hih renoun, Ageyn timor mortis conturbat me.

¹ MS. surquedye.

Sampson that rent the lioun On pecis smale, thus stood the caas; Nor Dauid that slowh the champyoun, I meene the myghty greet Golias; Nor Machabeus the strong Judas, Ther fatal ende whoo-so lyst see, Both of Symon and Jonathas, Was timor mortis conturbat me.

In the Apocalips of seyn John, The chapitlys whoo-so can devyde, The apostyl thoughte that he sawh oon Vpon a paale hors did ryde, That poweer hadde on euery syde; His name was deth, thorugh cruelte; His strook, whoo-so that durste abyde, Was timor mortis conturbat me.

Rekne alle the wourthy nyne, And these olde conquerours; Deth them made echoon to fyne, And with his dedly mortal shours Abatyd hath ther fressh flours, And cast hem doun froom hih degree, And eek these myghty emperours, With timor mortis conturbat me.

These ladyes that were so fressh of face, And of bewte moost souereyn, Ester, Judith, and eek Candace, Alceste, Dido, and fayr Eleyne, And eek the goodly wy[v]es¹ tweyne, Mar[c]ya² and Penelope, Were enbracyd in the cheyne Of timor mortis conturbat me.

What may all wourldly good avaylle, Strengthe, konnyng and rychesse, Nor victorye in bataylle, Fame, conquest, nor hardynesse, Kyngdammys to wynne or oppresse, Youthe, helthe, nor prosperyte? All this hath here no sykirnesse Ageyn timor mortis conturbat me.

Whan youthe hath doon his passage, And lusty yeerys been agoon, Thanne folwith afftir crookyd age, Slak skyn and many a wery boon.

² MS. Maroya, emended by Koeppel.

The sunne is dirk that whyloom shoon Of lusty youthe and fressh bewte, Whan othir socour is ther noon But timor mortis conturbat me.

In August whan the levys falle, Wyntir folwith afftir soone, The grene of somyr doth appalle, The wourld is changeable as the moone; Than is there no moore to doone But providence in ech degree, Of recure whan thar is no boone Saaff timor mortis conturbat me.

Ech man be war and wys beforn, Or sodeyn deth come hymrto saylle; For there was nevir so myghty born, Armyd in platys nor in maylle, That, whan deth doth hym assaylle, Hath of diffence no liberte, To thynke afore what myght avaylle On timor mortis conturbat me.

Enpreente this mateer in your mynde, And remembre wel on this lessoun: Al wourldly good shal leve be-hynde, Tresour and greet pocessioun; So sodeyn transmutacioun, Ther may no bettir socour be Thanne ofte thynke on Cristes passioun, Whan timor mortis conturbat me.

XII. GOLAGROS AND GAWAYNE

(c. 1470.)

Hectour and Alexander, and Julius Cesar,
Dauid and Josue, and Judas the gent,
Sampsone and Salamon, that wise and wourthy war,
And that ringis on erd, richest of rent;
Quhen thai met at the merk, than might thai na mair,
To speid thame our the spere-feild enspringing thai sprent.\(^1\)
(ll. 1233-8.)

¹ Cp. VI. 'Is it out of respect for historical accuracy that our poet has substituted Sampsone and Salamon?' F. J. Amours, Scottish Allit. Poems in Riming Stanzas, p. 284; v. note on the passage.

XIII. EARLY MUMMING PLAY ON THE NINE WORTHIES (XVth century)

(Tanner MS. 407, temp. Edward IV; first printed by Ritson, in Remarks on last edition of Shakespeare', 1783.)

IX. WORTHY.

ECTOR DE TROYE. Thow Achylles in bataly me slow, Of my wurthynes men speken i-now.

Alisander. And in romaunce often am I leyt 1, As conqueror gret thow I seyt 2.

JULIUS CASAR. Thow my cenatoures me slow in Constory 3 , Fele londes byfore by conquest wan I.

JOSUE. In holy Chyrche ye mowen here and rede Of my wurthynes and of my dede.

DAVIT. Aftyr that slayn was Golyas
By me the Sawter than made was.

JUDAS MACABEUS. Of my wurthynesse 3yf 3e wyll wete Seche the Byble, for ther it is wrete.

ARTHOUR. The Round Tabyll I sette with knyghtes strong, 3yt shall I come azen, thow it be long.

CHARLES. With me dwellyd Rouland Olyvere In all my conquest fer and nere.

GODEFREY DE And I was kyng of Jherusalem;
BOLEYN. The crowne of thorn I wan from them.

¹ i.e. esteemed, honoured.

Ritson, = 'sey't, i.e. say it'; prob. = set (= sette) = declined, sank.
 Ritson, Conllory. Conftory = Consistory.

APPENDIX

XIV. VERSES ON EARLIEST WOOD-BLOCK (1454-7.)

Preserved in Bibl. Nat. (Anciens Fonds Franc., No. 9653).

[The Nine Worthies are virilly depicted with their heraldic devices; these lines explain the several personages.]

HECTOR DE TROYE.

Je sui Hector de Troie ou li povoir fu grans. Je vis les Greciens qui moult furent puissans, Qu'assegier vinrent Troie ou il furent lone tampz. Ja occis XXX rois come preus et vaillans. Archiles me tua, ja n'en soies doubtans, Devant que Dieu nasqui XIII° et XXX ans.

LE ROI ALEXANDRE.

Par me force conquis les yles d'oultre mer, D'Orient, d'Occident me fis sire clamer; Roy Daire desconfis: Porus vols conquester, Et le grant Babilonne pris toutte à gouverner. Tout le monde conquis, mes par empuissonner VIII° ans devant Dieu me fist on afiner.

JULIUS CÉSAR.

Empe[re]ur fu de Romme et en maintins les drois. Englettere conquis, France et les Navarois. Pompée desconfis et tous ses grans conrois; Et Lombardie oussi fu mise à mes voloirs Et tous les Allemans. Puis fu occy tous frois Devant que Dieu nasqui VII^{c1} ans avoecq III.

Josué.

Des enfans d'Isràël fu ge forment amés. Dieu fist maintes vertus pour moi; c'est vérités. Le rouge mer parti. Puis fu par moi passés Le flum Jourdain. S'en fu maint paien affinez. XXII. rois conquis, puis moru, n'en doubtez, V° ans devant che que Jhesus Crist fu nés.

LE ROI DAVID.

Je trouvai son de harpe et de psalterion Je tuai Golias le grand gaiant felon: En bataille et ailleurs me tint on a preudom. Après le roi Saul maintins la region, Et je prophetizai de Dieu la nacion, Bien IIIo ans devant son incarnacion.

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES'

JUDAS MACHABEUS.

Je tins Ihérusalem et le loy de Moyse, Qui estoit quand je vins a perdicion mise. Les ydoles ostai, si mis la loy juise. Antiocus tuay dont le gent fu occise, Et Apolonion; puis moru, quand g'y vise, C ans avant que Dieus ot char h[um]aine prise.

LE ROY ARTUS.

Je fu roy de Bretaigne, d'Escoche et d'Engleterre; Maint roialme je vos par ma force conquerre; Le grant gaiant Rusto fis morir et deffaire. Sus le mont Saint Miciel un aultre en alai querre. Je vis le sang Greal; mes la mort me fist g[ue]rre, Qui m'ochit V° ans puisque Dieus vint sus terre.

CHARLELEMAND.

Je fu roy des Rommains, d'Alemagne et de France, Je conquis toutte Espaigne et le mis en créance, Jaumont et Agoullant ochis par me puissance, Et les Sainnes oussi destruisi par vaillance. Pluseurs segneurs rebelles mis à obeissance, Puis moru VIII° ans après Dieu le nessance.

GODFROY DE BUILLON.

Je fu duc de Buillon dont je maintins l'onnour. Por gerrier paiens je vendis ma tenour. Ens es plains de Surie je conquis l'Aumachour, Le roi Cornumarant ochis en un estour. Iherusalem conquis et le pais d'entour. Mors fu XI° ans après nostre Segnour.

XV. PROLOGUE TO PROSE 'ALEXANDER'

(From MS. belonging to the end of the XIVth or beginning of XVth century.)

Bruns's Altplattdeutsche Gedichte (1798).

KONING KARL. Wol mi, dat ek ju wart. Al Sasseslant han ik bekart.

ARTUS. An mynem hove mach me schawen ritter, spel, schon juncvrauwen.

APPENDIX

Gotfrit. Cristus graf over mer dat wan ek mit minen her.

DAVID. Ek was en clene man: Golliat dan resen ek overwan.

JUDAS. To stride was ek unvorsaged. van dem velde wart ek nu gejaget.

Josue. Got let my de sunnen stan: dre un drittich koninge ek over-wan.

Julius. To Rome was ek en keiser grot; Pompeo dede eke grote not.

HECTOR. Ek hebbe vochten mennigen strit; Achillis sloch mi; dat was nyt.

ALEXANDER. Mir ist wol gelungen;
Al de werlt han ek bedwungen.

XVI. From HARVARD MS. OF LYDGATE'S 'GUY OF WARWICK'

(c. 1450.)1

Floruit Arthuro sub rege Britannia quondam, Gallia sub Carolo floruit illa suo,
Non minor his ibat magnus Godfridus in armis,
Quo sese iactat Belgica terra vetus.
Hector, Alexander, Romanae gloria gentis,
Iulius eximie nobilitate viri,
Et valida virtute pares dignissima turba,
Quam vehat arguta fama canora tuba.
Iosua, dux Israell, David, Macabeus Iudas,
Quos Iudae tellus protulit alma viros;
His domiti quondam reges pepere triumphos
Insignes et nunc fama perenna vehat.

¹ Cp. (Harvard) Studies and Notes in Philology and Literature, vol. v (Child Memorial Volume), 1896, on two MSS. of Lydgate's Guy of Warwick, by F. N. Robinson.

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES'

XVII. HARL. MS. 200; XVth-century handwriting

.iij. Pagani.

.iii. Judei.

HECTOR, ALEX, JULIUS, DAVID, JOSUE, MACHABEUS,

.iij. Christiani.

CAROLUS, ARTHURUS ET PRECELLENS GODEFRIDUS.

XVIII. LANSD. MS. 762; temp. Henry VII

Saraceni.

Judgei.

ECTOR, ALEX, JULIUS; DAVID, JOSUE, MACHABEUS;

Cristiani.

ARTUR CUM CAROLO, GALFRIDUM LINQUERE VOLO: ISTI SUNT TER TRES TRINI FIDEI MELIORES.1

¹ To the beginning of the XVIth century belong the rather prosaic stanzas on the Nine Worthies at the end of Stephen Hawes's Passelyme of Pleasure. K. notes Barclay's references to Caesar, Alexander, Charlemagne, Godfrey, &c. in the Ship of Fools, where 'the ende of worldly honour and power' is treated of.

'SEE ALISANDRE, HECTOR, AND JULIUS,
SEE MACHABEUS, DAUID, AND JOSUE,
SEE CHARLEMAYNE, GODFRAY, AND ARTHUS,
FULFILD OF WERRE AND OF MORTALITEE:
HIR FAME ABIT, BUT AL IS VANITEE,
FOR DETH, WHICH HATH THE WERRES UNDER FOTE,
HATH MADE AN ENDE, OF WHICH THERE IS NO BOTE.'

Gower, Balade to King Henry the Fourth.









SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS



SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS

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- III -

A GOOD SHORT DEBATE BETWEEN

WINNER AND WASTER

An Alliterative Poem on Social and Economic Problems in England in the year 1352 With Modern English Rendering



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AC I SEAL SUYE AS I SAW, SO WE GOD RELEE,
HOW FEETLY AFOR THE NUMBER RESCUT GAY TO PRECES.
HE HAD WASTOVER GO WORTHE WHAT HE REST CONTRE.
AND WINNEY HIS WASTEYN WITH SAMES MAYERS CRAFTE.

From Physica B V. 22-3

PREFACE

The Manuscript. Wynnere and Wastoure, first printed by the present editor as an Appendix to The Parlement of the Thre Ages, issued by the Roxburghe Club in 1897, and now for the first time edited, follows that poem in the fifteenth-century Thornton manuscript, British Museum Add. MSS. 31042. It is in the scribe's characteristic hand, as may be seen from the pages reproduced in this volume. The manuscript is incomplete, and no other text is extant.

The scribe must have copied Wynnere and Wastoure from a manuscript illegible in many parts. A minute study has revealed an unexpectedly large number of errors due to corruption, misreading, substitution of words, and other causes. A comparison of the Thornton text of Wynnere and Wastoure with that of The Parlement of the Thre Ages makes it quite clear that it must have passed through various stages of corruption before it reached the scribe. The text before him may have been derived from a copy of the poem carried in a minstrel's wallet, which had become illegible in many places.

The substitution of more modern words for difficult, rare, and archaic forms, and the obvious attempts to make some sense of corrupt passages, must be referred to scribal intention, whether on the part of Thornton or a predecessor.

The task of dealing with the many errors has necessitated very bold treatment of the text, as may be seen from the long list of emendations. There is perhaps no more corrupt Middle-English manuscript than this of Wynnere and

Wastoure. It is hoped that the poet's diction as well as the meaning of this remarkable poem may now have been restored.

Probably very little of the poem is lost. The dreamer no doubt was roused from his vision by the sound of trumpets, and found himself resting by the bank of the burn, the tale ending with some pious reflection, by way of conclusion.

Authorship of the poem. There is no clue to the name of the poet, though from the Prologue it may be inferred that he was a 'western man'. He was certainly a professional minstrel, of humble rank. To him we may safely assign the authorship of *The Parlement of the Thre Ages*; the two poems may be described as companion poems. Passages in the one are strongly reminiscent of passages in the other; the general framework of the two pieces is much the same; whole lines are identical; the two pieces is much the same; whole lines are identical; a further, the tests of language and metre all tend to confirm identity of authorship.

Date of the poem. Internal evidence dates the poem as belonging to the year 1352. In 1. 202 it is explicitly stated that the king, Edward III, has fostered and fed the disputants these five-and-twenty years. Further, there is distinct allusion to the Statute of Treasons (1352), evidently recently promulgated, ll. 130-3; and many references to be discussed further on corroborate this evidence.

The following time-indications and contemporary allusions are noteworthy:

- (i) The striking reference to the Order of the Garter,
- ¹ The attempt to identify him with the noble 'Huchown of the Awle Ryale' ignores this personal clue. There is no evidence in any way tending to make the theory at all possible (cp. Huchown of the Awle Ryale, by George Neilson, 1902).
- ² Cp. e. g. 11. 110-20, Parl. 110-35; cp. description of Waster generally with Youth in Parl., and Winner with Middle Age.
- ³ Cp. l. 37 with Parl. 14, l. 240 with Parl. 189. Other parallels are referred to in the Notes passim.

- Il. 160-8, with its famous motto, Honi soit qui mal [y] pense, excellently rendered into English alliterative verse, 'Hethyng haue the hathell pat any harme thynkes'. The foundation of the Order is now generally assigned to 1344, but its institution was not carried out till St. George's Day, 1349.
- (ii) The delightful picture of the Black Prince, '3ongeste of 3eris and 3apeste of witt', already 'dubbede knyghte', and bearing the three ostrich feathers, ll. 103-20, probably already associated with his motto 'Ich dien'. This could not have been written many years after the Prince's heroic feats at Creçy; these had won for him honour and fame. At the beginning of that campaign he received knighthood from his father.
- (iii) The heraldic allusions, ll. 74-80,—the combined arms of the two countries, 'the lely and the lepard' (as another contemporary poet, Minot, puts it) 'gedered on a grene'. This reference must have had special point after Edward's great victory, though he had already, as early as 1337, quartered the arms of France. The poet was evidently emphasizing that, at the time he was writing, no negotiations involving the renunciation of Edward's claim to the French crown were under consideration. It was in July 1353 that Edward offered to give up his claim to the crown on receiving Guienne, Normandy, Ponthieu, and other demands.
- (iv) The description of Edward III with his 'bery-brown berde'. He is evidently of early middle age, that is about forty.
- (v) 'Ynglysse besantes full brighte, betyn of golde', l. 61; this looks like a special reference to the new issue of gold coinage in 1351. The famous English 'noble', which had been first struck in 1343, was deservedly pre-eminent

¹ It is to be noted that at the end of the MS. of Sir Gawayne, Cott. Nero A. x, there is written in the same hand as the rest of the poem, Hony soyt qui mal pence.

² See Note on l. 108.

throughout Europe as the best of all coins, with its rich device of the monarch in his ship, with the banner of St. George flying at the mast, in the King's right hand a sword, in his left a shield with the arms of France and England. But of course the noble did not bear the motto of the Garter. In making the pavilion appear lavishly covered with these English besants, the poet is evidently hinting at the extravagance associated with the Royal House. The application of the motto served as the fitting retort to those who censured all this waste of the nation's resources, the pomp and display of the Order.

- (vi) The growing suspicion of the Friars as self-seekers, and resentment of the Papal policy, which found expression in the Statute of Provisors, 1351; cp. ll. 144-8, 460-70. The pope in question was evidently Clement VI, who died on December 6, 1352.2
- (vii) Questions of labour, wages, prices, dress, food, which called forth the Statute of Labourers, 1351, and various sumptuary and economic enactments of about this time. All these problems are present to the mind of the writer.
- (viii) The reference at the end of the poem to some period when the truce with France was broken, after the taking of Guines in 1352. There was a formal truce from September 1351 to September 1352, and again from March 1353 to August 1353. The poem well fits into the months from September 1352 to March 1353.
 - (ix) Allusions to questions resulting from the Black

¹ This new issue was the outcome of the various attempts to keep out of the country the base foreign coins known as the Lussheburghs. The king in 1848 forbade their circulation in the city of London, and in 1851 not only ordered the new issue of gold pieces, but introduced also the new silver coinage of groats. The issue of coinage was the royal prerogative.

² See Note, 11. 461-5.

Death of 1349. The reference to the greater cold that is to come (l. 252) seems to point to the rigorous winter from December 6, 1352, to March 1353. The 'great drought' (l. 312) may well refer to the drought recorded by contemporary historians. Knighton, under 1352, states as follows:—'Aestas erat nimis sicca, adeo quod, pro defectu aquae, bestiae multae perierunt in suis pasturis et marisci devenerunt quod via patuit ubi non occurrit viam patuisse.'

- (x) The mention of profiteering in wheat, with the prophecy of Winner's approaching disaster by the fall of prices (ll. 368-74). This points to the year preceding Michaelmas 1353-Michaelmas 1354, when the prices of wheat were very low. In Michaelmas 1351 to Michaelmas 1352, throughout the year the prices were generally high; so too during the previous year. In the year from Michaelmas 1352-Michaelmas 1353, the price was falling, 'in part, at least, from the anticipation of an abundant harvest'; cp. Rogers, Agriculture and Prices, vol. i.
- (xi) The direct reference by name in 1. 317 to William de Shareshull,—'pat saide I prikkede with powere his pese to distourbe'. William de Shareshull was Justice of the King's Bench in 1333, and about the same time Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. He was one of the judges dismissed and imprisoned in 1340 on some charge of maladministration made by the king on his return from the siege of Tournai; he was restored to office in 1342, and in two years' time was promoted to the position of Chief Baron of the Exchequer. In 1350 he was made Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Foss, in his Lives of the Judges, states that at this time, 1350, he seems to have been more of a political and parliamentary, judge than a man of law, for no Chief Justice is so seldom mentioned in the Year Books'. He was Head of the Court of King's Bench from 1350 to 1357, and during that period

declared the causes of the meeting of Parliament from 1351 to 1355. 'Having pronounced a judgment against the Bishop of Ely for harbouring one of his people who had slain a man of Lady Wake's, he was excommunicated by the Pope in the last year of his judicial career for not appearing when summoned. He lived beyond 37 Edward III.' It is interesting in connexion with the present poem to note that Shareshull is mentioned in Monumenta Franciscana as one of the nobles of the Order (Monumenta Franciscana, Rolls Series, p. 541). It is noteworthy, as Dr. Henry Bradley has pointed out,2 that Shareshull, in giving his reasons for the summoning of Parliament, in January 1352, referring to the 'wastefull military nobility, and the various bodies that were growing rich at its expense', made the very charge that Wastoure seems to challenge in this poem :- 'Pur ceo que nostre Seignour le Roi ad entenduz que la Pees de son Roialme n'est pas bien garde come estre deveroit, et que les destourbours de la Pees et meintenours des quereles et des riotes faites en pais grevont trop a son poeple, sanz ceo que due punissement est fait de eux.'3

The cumulative value of all this evidence clearly points to the winter of 1352-3 as the date of composition, for the poet is evidently writing concerning events which are just happening, or are fresh in his memory. His poem is in fact a topical pamphlet in alliterative verse on the social and economic problems of the hour, as vivid as present day discussions on like problems. Indeed, nothing is more

¹ Foss, Lives of the Judges.

Dr. Neilson attempted to refer the poem to events connected with this incident which led to Shareshull's excommunication by the Pope (cp. Athenœum, August 3, 24, 1901). As I pointed out, this view rested on an erroneous reading of the poem (cp. Athenœum, August 24, Sept. 7, 1901). The lawyers and the friars and the Pope are all on the same side, namely Winner's.

³ Athenœum, April 18, 1903.

striking than the parallel between the national questions affecting England in 1352 and in 1920.

General survey of the poem. In the conventional form of a dream-poem, preceded by a prelude, the poet deals with contemporary conditions. Once on a time wandering in the west, by the bank of a stream, in the heat of the day, he rests under a hawthorn, and towards night falls asleep and dreams a dream. He is in a meadow, surrounded by hills; in the woods on either side two armies are ready for battle. He prays for the coming of his prince, who is able to prevent the impending fight; and while praying, lo, on the crest of a cliff he beholds the royal pavilion, all adorned with English besants, each one bearing the motto, 'Hethyng haue the hathell pat any harme thynkes,' i. e. Honi soit qui mal pense. Outside the pavilion stands the royal herald, his coat quartering the arms of England and France. Within the tent he catches sight of a king, whom he at once recognizes-King Edward III, 'with berry-brown beard', clad in kirtle and mantle adorned with devices of the Garter and emblems of the royal enthusiasm for hawking-King Edward in all his comeliness and pomp, who calls forth from the dreamer an outburst of loyal admiration. At the king's side stands a knight-unmistakably the Black Prince. The King bids him go forth and command the hosts to desist from the fray. 'I serve, Lord', says the prince, while my life shall endure. Clad in the arms betokening peace, without helmet, with an escutcheon at back and front showing the three ostrich feathers, the young prince, with a branch in his hand, still further in token of his peaceful message, betakes himself to the field, and addresses the combatants. He reminds them that the law of the land made it punishable as a felony to ride in warlike array, encroaching the royal power. But as they know not

¹ See Notes, 1. 108.

the law nor the king's prerogative, the king by royal grace will grant them his pardon. Surveying one army, he exclaims that such a motley throng he has never seen. He enumerates as follows,-folks of France, of Lorraine, of Lombardy, of Low Spain, 'wights of Westphalia' that are aye in war, many Hanseatic merchants of England and of Ireland. Lo, the banners of the Pope, the lawyers, the four orders of friars, wool-merchants, wine-merchants, and other merchant-men! And on the other side he sees brave men-atarms, bold squires, bowmen many, ready to strike the blow, and to fight to the bitter end. He bids them withhold from their purpose, and state their case before the king. The leader from each side comes forward, greets the prince, and expresses readiness to submit to the king's decision. They say that they know the king well, for he has clad them both, and has fostered and fed them for five-and-twenty years. They journey on, and soon are received by the king, who welcomes them as 'servants both of his house',-the one leader is named Winner and the other Waster. They state their case before the king, Winner leading off, each maintaining, against the asseverations of the other, his special claims and merits. The king listens patiently; his verdict is significant. Winner is to pass forth by Paris to the Pope of Rome (that is, to Avignon), where the Cardinals will make much of him, will let him rest in silken sheets, and will feed him luxuriously; but he is to return home when the king again summons him. Waster is to dwell in Cheapside, and enjoy the dainty fare of the town, and provide for his needs by gulling rich simpletons who may chance to pass through. The king promises that Winner and Waster shall not come in one another's way. He bids Winner await him abroad when he again goes to war; he will then dub him knight, and give gifts of gold and silver to his lieges, and thence return with his knights to the Kirk of Cologne, where the Three Kings lie entombed. With this striking reference to Cologne the manuscript abruptly breaks off.

The debate between Winner and Waster touches so many historical and economic problems that I have deemed it advisable to append a modern English rendering of the poem. This may be useful for those who wish to deal with the subject-matter. It is difficult to epitomize adequately where every line is of interest by reason of argument, allusion, or vivid description.

The significance of the poem. Wynnere and Wastoure is a pamphlet of the day; and its main purpose is to set forth the outstanding problems of Edward III's reign, more especially between the dates of Creçy and Poitiers.

There was abundance of wealth,—on the one hand, the wealth of the merchants and others who amassed and hoarded as much as they could get; and on the other, the wealth of the thriftless, who were lavish, reckless, and self-indulgent, spending freely, selling their family estates, neglecting their duties as landlords, letting houses and yards go to rack and ruin, maintaining idle retainers, paying no heed to the morrow, spending a ransom of silver on a dinner. These latter were not merely gay young squires, but included also brave men of arms—the military class generally. Indeed, the position of this class in face of the rise of the new merchant class—the new rich, with all the power of wealth, is an outstanding feature of the poem, and perhaps the main point at issue.

In the ranks of Winner were not only these merchants and profiteers, but also the Pope, the lawyers, and the friars.

The condition of the mass of the people, owing to the pestilence and the wars, presented many problems. Prices

were high, and in March 1351 there was loud resentment against victuallers who forestalled the market. Labour was scarce, and those who had previously been in poor plight were now able to demand high wages, though legislation attempted to fix a scale. Women previously in service now disported themselves in the newest fashions, and wore mantles of rich fur.

Poverty, however, was widespread, and many found living well-nigh impossible. The poor were in a parlous state.

The king, whose brilliant achievements still made him secure in the admiration and loyalty of his subjects, nevertheless presented to the thoughtful the twofold aspect of his character in relation to these very problems. There was his love of pomp and magnificence, involving the heaviest expenditure-he was indeed Waster par excellence; and there were his consequent commercialism and dubious methods for satisfying his royal needs, efforts which found expression in his fiscal policy, his Free Trade policy, so that he might well also suggest Winner par excellence. His dealing with the foreign bankers and his relation to the Estate of Merchants were matter of public discussion at the time when our poet wrote. In London in particular there was resentment against the policy of 1351, when full liberty of trade was granted to aliens on equal terms with natives throughout the land. To this policy our poet evidently refers when he includes on the side of Winner the various nationalities, including the representatives of the Hanseatic guilds in England and in Ireland. It must be remembered that the foreign merchants were under the special protection of the king, and that the king derived profit from his prerogative; he was accordingly so free in granting privileges, that his subjects at times had to protest.1

¹ Compare the repeated petitions to the king in Letter Book G of the

The riotous living of the young nobles, and perhaps of the military generally, had become so serious that, at the opening of the January parliament of 1352, Lord Chief Justice Shareshull, whom the poet evidently considers a partisan of Winner, made direct reference to 'these disturbers of the peace'.

With striking appropriateness, the poet in his dreampicture delicately submits the problem of Economy and Waste to the king himself. It is significant that the king's emissary is none other than the Black Prince. His extravagance was notorious. 'Debt was the curse of the Prince's life, from the campaign of Crecy to the day of his death.' 1

The king has clad and fed and fostered Winner and Waster for five-and-twenty years; he knows them well, servants both of his household. One wonders whether the picture of the royal pavilion with its emblems of the Garter is but a poet's transformation of the royal palace at Windsor,² so closely associated with the splendours of the Order. The dreamer, a clear-headed observer of the times, though he gives abundant proof of loyalty and devotion to Edward of Windsor, yet, without bias and with seeming detachment, states in all its aspects the case of Winning and Wasting.

City of London against the Statute of 1351, by which 'merchant strangers were placed on the same footing as merchant denizens, contrary to the city's franchise', p. 15.

In Finance and Trade under Edward III, ed. George Unwin, University of Manchester Historical Series, 1918, there is a noteworthy chapter on the Estate of Merchants, 1336-65. The Merchants were so important

that they were rapidly becoming a separate estate of the realm.

1 R. P. Dunn-Pattison, The Black Prince, 1910. 'Thus it was that he whom the nation idolized for his bravery and generosity, who was regarded throughout Europe as the most humane and courteous warrior of the day, was loathed and execrated by his own tenants and peasantry' (p. 129.)

² One is reminded of Shakespeare's reference to the Garter and Windsor

Castle in The Merry Wives of Windsor, V. v. 59-77.

It is a pity that the concluding lines of the poem are lost, though they may not have added anything material so far as the argument is concerned.

The form of the poem. The debate-form which is used by the poet arises naturally from the theme. There may well have been some contemporary proverb in English, as there still is in German, to the effect that 'Winner must have Waster'. The poetical debate goes back to pre-Norman times; such poems as the old English colloquy between Soul and Body represent an old tradition, and our poet may well have known the dialogues between Wine and Water, Summer and Winter, The Owl and the Nightingale, and the like. At the same time it should be noted that the records of this period bear evidence to the growing antagonism between the military and knightly class and the powerful 'new rich' class of merchants, and to Councils for discussing how best to unite their common interests for king and country.

The Banners. The poet of Wynnere and Wastoure delights in the picturesque. His pictorial details are most striking, and nowhere more so than in his description of the banners of the various sections of Winner's army. These banners are, in my judgment, wholly fanciful; and I am convinced that any attempt to evolve exact heraldic data from the descriptions will prove to be futile.² I read them as follows:—

¹ Dr. George Neilson's attempt to identify Winner and Waster with Brennius and Belinus, and the king with their mother Convenna who reconciles them, should perhaps be mentioned. No such forced analogy need be sought for the source of the plot (Huchown of the Awle Ryale, 1902).

² Mr. Neilson has attempted to identify the heraldic devices. His identification of the six galleys 'each with a brace (or bend) and two buckles' with John of the Isles and with his wife Margaret de Vaus, 'whose grandfather bore a bend with two cinquefoils (?), which perhaps were buckles', need not be discussed now that the galleys have become galoshes. And so likewise the other attempts at identification are by no

- (i) The Pope's banner is black, with three Papal Bulls, white, a cord of hemp from each with a heavy lead seal. The growing feeling against papal influence in England is no doubt shown by the reference to the Bulls with their heavy leaden seals. The black has probably reference to Pope Clement's connexion with the Benedictine Order, who were the Black Monks.
- (ii) The second banner has a bend of green with three white-haired heads with coifs. This is the banner of the lawyers. The three coifed heads are very simple indications, without any heraldic connotation. The bend of green has subtle significance as suggesting the extortions of the 'green wax', to which striking allusion is found in a political poem belonging in all probability to the early years of Edward III's reign; the 'green wax'—'viridis cera', la verte cere,—was one of the most resented forms of raising revenue:—

"Greype me seluer to be grene wax:

"Greype me seluer to be grene wax:

pou art writen y my writ, hat hou wel wost"....

pus he grene wax vs greueh vnder gore,

pat me vs honteh ase hound deh he hare;

The Song of the Husbandman; MS. Harl. 2253.2

In a later poem, God speed the Plough, the husbandmen's cry is still 'the grene wex which greveth vs sore'.

means corroborated or made even plausible when tested. On the contrary, the text seems to me to prove the very opposite of Mr. Neilson's statement, that the poem 'conveys hints of a surprising variety of strifes and concords in fields both sacred and secular, Scottish and English' (ibid. pp. 137-8); see also Athenæum, June 13, 1903, and Dr. Henry Bradley's reply, ibid., June 27, 1903.

I can find no reference anywhere in the poem to Scottish matters. Indeed, the omission is noteworthy, but can be explained from the severance of the two countries in matters commercial and economic.

¹ Cp. Notes, l. 144.

² cp. Thomas Wright's Political Songs of England, pp. 151-2; K. Böddeker, Harl. MS. 2268, pp. 103-4.

The hearers of Wynnere and Wasteure well understood the allusion to the 'bend of green' (see notes, ll. 149, 314-18).

(iii) The banners of the Four Orders are equally fanciful.

(a) The banner of the Franciscans bears the strange device of six 'galags', an old form of the modern 'galosh', but used for a rather showy shoe. These 'galags', six in number, that is, three pairs, have each a brown brace or strap, with two buckles. My emendation of the manuscript, which has 'galeys', is confirmed by a statement in *Pierce Ploughmans'* Crede, ll. 298-9,

'Fraunces bad his breheren barfote to wenden; Nou han hei bucled schon, for bleynynge of her heles.'

As regards the brown strap, the reference may possibly be merely to the brown leather of the strap; but on the other hand the allusion may be to the russet, dark brown habit worn by the Franciscans, cp. Pierce Ploughman's Crede, 719, 'pei vsen russet also, somme of pis freres'. The buckling of the galosh is emphasized in reference to this particular form of shoe, cp. Canterbury Tales, F 555, 'Ne were worthy unbokelen his galoche'.

The Galache, or Galoche, or Galegge seems to have been a sort of patten fastening to the foot by cross-latchets, though later used for a clownish shoe; cp. Spenser's 'Galage' in the Shepherd's Calendar for February and September. In the Vision of Piers Plowman, B. XVIII. 14, 'galoches youped' are mentioned side by side with gold spurs as knightly adornments. The banner emphasizes this aspect of their worldliness in contradistinction to their teaching that the end of the world was near, and all flesh would soon pass. After describing their banner, the Black Prince seems to add, as a sort of aside, that they seldom fight, and that they could only have been brought into the field by the chance of

winning wealth. Some rich patron must have brought them thither.

I have little doubt that, under ordinary conditions, the banner of the Franciscans, who in France were called Cordeliers, would have shown a hempen cord, which was their characteristic, and from which they derived their French name. But the hempen cord had already been used by the poet in describing the Papal Bulls of the Pope's standard.

- (b) The Midsummer Sun of the Dominicans' banner, that is, the Black Friars, hence 'bothe the brerdes of blake', well symbolizes Dominican pomp and pride.
- (c) The third banner, evidently that of the Carmelite Order, the White Friars, though the manuscript is here again in error, is of white, with three boar's heads, alluding to the alleged gluttony of the Order. The author of Pierce Ploughman's Crede makes the Minorites apply to the Carmelites St. Paul's utterance in Phil. iii. 19, 'whose god is their belly', 'And glotony is her God', l. 92.
- (d) The Augustine Friars have as their device black belts, alluding to their garb of black, with a leathern girdle, which they evidently used as a shaving-strop.
- (iv) The other standards are those of the great merchants, especially those of wool and wine, the two great commodities on which so much of the trade of France and England at this time depended. No doubt the standard of the wool-merchants bore the wool-sacks, and that of the wine-merchants wine-tuns. The other merchant-marks are not indicated.

The Prologue and the Refrain. For students of literary history not the least important part of the poem is the striking Prologue, a sort of prelude to the vision, with its plaintive note concerning the neglect of poets by great lords.

The note is re-echoed in the long-drawn wail of later English poets. It is recalled in Marlowe's

'Few great lords in virtuous deeds shall joy But be surprised with every garish toy,' 1

and Spenser's October Eclogue, harking back to Theocritus and Mantuan, as the gloss explains. There is nothing quite like this prologue in mediaeval English poetry; it reminds one of the conventional prelude in the old Northern S.mar. with its personal reflections and self-revelation. The times are bad, filial ties are weak, a western man in his old age cannot hope to see his son again, when buce the lure of London holds him fast. The end of the world must be near, rough boys of no blood are wedding fair ladies, and the minstrelpoet, once welcomed, is now neglected, while the maker of jests, the mere buffoon, unable to compose three words, is honoured and made much of. Here, in what seems to be the oldest extant alliterative poem, is recorded the growing differentiation between poet and minstrel, to the detriment of the former. The introductory allusion to Brutus touches one of the great themes of alliterative poetry. The emphasis on the West well attests the juxtaposition of the West Midland and the East Midland, not only in respect of the genre and tone and spirit of the poetry of the two schools, but also, as the poet implies, by way of contrast between the simplicity of life in the less fashionable parts of England and the luxurious indulgence of the south, whereby London is clearly referred to. Indeed, the poet himself shows his intimate acquaintance with town. He knew Cheapside, the Poultry, Bread Street, &c., much in the same way as a later western man in the C-text of the Vision of Piers Plannan gives us glimpses of his experiences in London, where he states that he lived in Cornhill with his wife Kit and his daughter Calote.

¹ Here and Leander, 1st sestiad.

It was not therefore due to their ignorance of the more refined poetry of the East Midland, with London as its zentre, that these western poets chose the more provincial form of verse.

A pleasing element in what is probably the earliest extant poem of the alliterative revival is its note of old minstrelsy at the end of each Fitt, suggestive of the recitative (if not lyrical) character of this fourteenth-century archaic poetry. The refrain, 'Fill in freshly and fast, for here a Fitt ends', calls up vividly the cheery hall, the rapt audience, the thirsty minstrel. Even so the Old English 'gleeman' and the Northern 'skald' paused for refreshment, and the same sort of traditional refrain may still be heard in the romantic ballad cycles of Iceland. The writer of Wynnere and Wastoure may well have attempted something less austere than a 'social problem' poem, or poetical homily, however picturesque, on the text Vanitas Vanitatum. Perhaps in his younger days he had been a maker of mirths; certainly The Parlement of the Thre Ages shows its author to have been well read in Romance. If only we knew more of the work that preceded these poems, much light would be cast, not only on the poet's development, but also on the baffling problems of the rise and development of English poetry of the alliterative school. As it is, we may, I think, safely place Wynnere and Wastoure chronologically at the head of the relics of this poetry preserved to us.

When Wynnere and Wastoure was a new poem, it seems to have stirred the heart of a young Western man, and perhaps to have kindled in him the latent fire of a prophet-poet, destined to deliver a weightier message to his fellow-countrymen. Ten years later than Wynnere and Wastoure the first version of The Vision of Piers Plowman set before all classes of the realm the evil conditions of the time, pointed to the corruptions in Church and State, and denounced even greater evils than those dealt with dramatically and dis-

passionately by our poet. The old man of Wynnere and Wastoure inspired Langland, the prophet-poet of England. While Wynnere and Wastoure has come down to our time in one manuscript, incomplete and most corrupt, The Vision of Piers Plowman, with its accretions and revisions, alone of all alliterative poems escaped the obscurity of mere local fame, and in numerous manuscripts maintained the great message unimpaired during all the centuries. The Vision of Piers Plowman also deals with Winner and Waster, but Winner connotes mainly Meed, that is, bribery and corruption, while Waster is something worse than a mere spendthrift. Indeed, I am inclined to suggest that the Waster of Langland traces his descent directly to the Wastours, that is, the devastators and pillagers, who by old statute (5 Edward III) are named with Roberdesmen and draw-latches, who were guilty of manslaughters, felonies, and robberies. When Winner in the present poem uses the term 'Waster' derogatorily, he is extending the sense of 'Waster', that is, the one who wastes his substance, and who is far from wishing to be associated with thieves and robbers. Our poet bids Waster become the ideal squire, look after his estates and the right welfare of his people; Langland bids his Waster desist from living on his wits and learn some craft. Whether by Langland himself or a disciple, this lesson is well emphasized in the last version of the poem :-

'He bad wastours go worche and wynne her sustinaunce Thorw som trewe trauail and no tyme spille,' Piers Plowman, C. VI. 127-8.

¹ Professor T. A. Knott, in his article on the authorship of Piers Plowman (Modern Philology, Vol. 14, 1916-17), discusses some of the points at issue in respect of the use of the terms 'Winner' and 'Waster', and the bearing of the question on the controversy on the authorship of Piers Plowman. He gives at the outset an excellent summary of the literature of the controversy up to the date of his article.



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HERE BEGYNNES A TRETYS AND GOD SCHORTE REFREYTE BY-TWIXE WYNNERE AND WASTOURE

[PROLOGUE.]

SYTHEN that Bretayne was biggede, and Bruyttus it aughte,
Thurgh the takynge of Troye with tresone with-inn,
There hathe selcouthes bene sene in seere kynges tymes,

But neuer so many as nowe by the nynfdle dele.

5 For nowe alle es witt and wyl[l]e that we with delyn, Wy[li] wordes and slee, and icheon wryeth othere; ††And now es no frenchipe [o]n fere bot fayntnesse of hert; Dare neuer no westren wy, while this werlde lasteth, Send his sone south-warde to see ne to here,

- ro That he ne schall holden by-hynde when he hore [for] eld est. For-thi sayde was a sawe of Salomon the wyse,—
 It hyeghte harde appone honde, hope I no noper,—
 When wawes waxen schall wilde, and walles bene doun,
 And hares appon herthe-stones schall hurcle in hire fourme,
- 15 And eke boyes of [no] blode, with boste and with pryde, Schall wedde ladyes in londe, and lede at hir † will, Thene dredfull domesdaye it draweth neghe aftir.

 Bot who-so sadly will see and the sothe telle, Say it newely will neghe, or es neghe here.
- 20 Whylome were lordes in londe pat loued in thaire hertis
 To here makers of myrthes, pat matirs couthe fynde,
 †† Wyse wordes with-inn, pat wr[iten] were neuer
 Ne redde in no romance pat euer renke herde.
 Bot now a childe appon chere, with-owtten chyn-wedys,

25 pat neuer wroghte thurgh witt there wordes to-gedire,
Fro he can jangle als a jaye, and japes [can] telle,
He schall be leuede and louede and lett of a while
Wele more pan po man that ma[kes] † hym-seluen.
Bot neuer po lattere at the laste, when ledys bene knawen,
30 Werke witnesse will bere who wirche kane beste.

[FITT I.]

BOT I schall tell yow a tale pat me by-tyde ones, Als I went in the weste, wandrynge myn one, Bi a bonke of a bourne, bryghte was the sone, Vndir a worthiliche wodde, by a wale medewe;

- 35 Fele floures gan folde ther my fote steppede.

 I layde myn hede one ane hill, ane hawthorne be-syde:
 The throstills full throly they threpe[d] to-gedire;
 Hipped vp heghwalles fro heselis tyll othire;
 Bernacles with thayre billes one barkes pay roungen;
- 4° p° jay janglede one heghe, jarmede the foles; p° bourne full bremly rane p° bankes by-twene; So ruyde were p° roughe stremys, and raughten so heghe, That it was neghande nyghte or I nappe myghte, For dyn of the depe watir, and dadillyng of fewllys.
- 45 Bot as I laye at the laste, pan lowked myn eghne,
 And I was swythe in a sweuen sweped be-lyue.

 Me thoghte I was in the werlde, I ne wiste in whate ende,
 One a loueliche lande pat was ylike grene,
 pat laye loken by a lawe the lengthe of a myle.
- In aythere holte was ane here in hawberkes full brighte, Harde hattes appon hedes and helmys with crestys, Brayden owte thaire baners, bown for to mete, Showen owte of the schawes, in schiltrons pay felle; And bot the lengthe of a launde thies l[e]des by-twene.
- 55 And al[s I] prayed for the pese till the prynce come,

For he was worthiere in witt than any wy ells, For to ridde and to rede and to rewlyn the wrothe That aythere here appon h[ethe] had vn-till othere, At the creste of a clyffe a caban was rerede,

- 60 Alle raylede with rede the rofe and the sydes,
 With Ynglysse besantes full brighte, betyn of golde,
 And ichone gayly vmby-gone with garters of inde,
 And iche a gartare of golde gerede full riche.
 Then were th[ies] wordes in b⁶ webbe werped of he,
- 65 Payntted of plunket, and poyntes by-twene, pat were fourmed full fayre appon fresche lettres, And alle was it one sawe, appon Ynglysse tonge, 'Hethyng haue the hathell pat any harme thynkes.'
- Now the kyng of this kythe, kepe hym oure Lorde! Vpon heghe one the holt ane hathell vp stondes, Wroghte als a wodwyse, alle in wrethyn lokkes, With ane helme one his hede, ane hatte appon lofte, And one heghe one be hatte ane hat[e]full beste, A lighte lebarde and a longe, lokande full kene,
- 75 3arked alle of 3alowe golde in full 3ape wyse.

 Bot that pat hillede the helme by-hynde in the nekke,

 Was casten full clenly in quarter[e]s foure—

 Two with flowres of Fraunce be-fore and be-hynde,

 And two o[per] of Ynglonde with sex [irous] bestes,
- 80 Thre leberdes one lofte, and thre on-lowe vndir;
 At iche a cornere a knoppe of full clene perle,
 Tasselde of tuly silke, tuttynge out fayre.
 And by pe cabane I knewe the k[nyght]e that I see,
 And thoghte to wiete, or I went, wondres ynewe.
- 85 And als I waytted with-inn I was warre sone
 Of a comliche kynge crowned with golde,
 Sett one a silken bynche, with septure in honde,

One of the louely este ledis, who-so loueth hym in hert, That euer segge vnder sonn sawe with his eghne.

- 9° This kynge was comliche clade in kirtill and mantill,
 Bery-brown as † his berde, brouderde with fewlys,
 Fawkons of fyne golde, flakerande with wynges,
 And ichone bare in ble, blewe als me thoghte,
 A grete gartare of ynde g[erede ful riche].
- 95 Full gayly was that grete lorde girde in the myddis, A brighte belte of ble, broudirde with fewles, With drakes & with dukkes, daderande pam semede, For ferdnes of fawcons fete, lesse fawked pay were. And euer I sayd to my-selfe, 'full selly me thynke
- The kyng biddith a beryn by hym pat stondeth,

 One of the ferlyeste frekes, pat faylede hym neuer:—
 'Thynke I dubbede the knyghte with dynttis to dele!

 Wende wightly thy waye my willes to kythe.
- To Go bidd bou 3 ondere bolde batell pat one po bent houes, That they neuer neghe nerre to-gedirs;

 For if thay strike one stroke, stynte pay ne thynken.'

 [Y serue,] lorde,' said po lede, 'while my life dures.'

 He dothe hym down one po bonke, & dwellys a while,
- He laped his legges in yren to the lawe bones,
 With pysayne & with pawnce polischede full clene,
 With brases of broun stele brauden full thikke,
 With plates buklede at be bakke be body to seme,
- A brod chechun at be bakke; be breste had anober;
 Thre wynges in-with, wroghte in the kynde,
 Vmbygon with a gold wyre. When I hat gome knewe,
 What, he was songeste of seris, and sapeste of witt,

120 pat any wy in this werlde wiste of his age!

He brake a braunche in his hande, & [brawndeschet] it swythe, Trynes one a grete trotte, & takes his waye There bothe thies ferdes folke in the felde houes.

- SAYD, 'loo, the kyng of this kyth, per kepe hym oure Lorde!

 Send[es] † [bodworde] by me, als hym beste lyketh,

 That no beryn be so bolde, one bothe his two eghne,

 Ones to strike one stroke, n[e] stirre no † nerre

 To lede rowte in his rewme, so ryall to thynke

 Pertly with † power[e] his pese to disturbe.
- If any beryn be so bolde with banere for to ryde
 With-inn p⁶ [kydde] kyngdome, bot the kynge one,
 That he schall losse the londe and his lyfe aftir.
 Bot sen 3e knowe noghte this kythe ne the kynge[s] ry[t]he,
- r₃₅ He will forgiffe 30w this gilt of his grace one.
 Full wyde hafe I walked wyes amonges,
 Bot sawe I neuer siche a syghte, segge[s], with myn eghne;
 For here es alle po folke of Fraunce ferdede be-syde,
 Of Lorreyne, of Lumbardye, and of Lawe Spayne;
- Of Ynglonde, of Yrlonde, Estirlynges full many, pat are stuffede in stele, strokes to dele.

 And 3ondere a banere of blake pat one p° bent houes, With thre bulles † of ble white brouden with-inn,
- 145 And iche one hase of henppe hynged a corde, Seled with a sade lede; I say als me thynkes,— That hede es of holy kirke, I hope he be there, Alle ferse to the fighte with the folke pat he ledis. Anoper banere es vp-brayde with a bende of grene,
- Thies are ledis of this londe bat schold oure lawes 3eme,

That thynken to dele this daye with dynttis full many. I holde hym bot a fole pat fightis whils flyttynge may helpe, 155 When he hase founden his frende pat fayled hym neuer.

THE thirde banere one bent es of blee whitte,
With sexe gale[g]s, I see, of sable with-inn,
And iche one has a brown brase with bokel[e]s twayne.
Thies are Sayn Franceys folke, pat sayen alle schall fey worthe;
160 They aren so ferse and so fresche, pay feghtyn bot seldom.
I wote wele for wynnynge thay wentten fro home;
His purse weghethe full wele that wanne thaym all hedire.

THE fourte banere one the bent [es] brayde appon lofte,
With bothe the brerdes of blake, a bal[l]e in the myddes,

165 Reghte siche as the sone es in the someris tyde,
When † moste [es] † po ma[z]e one Missomer Euen.
Th[ynkes] Domynyke this daye with dynttis to dele;
With many a blesenande beryn his banere es stuffede.
And sythen the pope es so priste thies prechours to helpe,
170 And Fraunceys with his folke es forced besyde,
And alle the ledis of the lande ledith thurgh witt,
There es no man appon molde to machen þaym agayne,
Ne gete no grace appon grounde, vndir God hym-seluen.

AND 3itt es the fyfte appon po folde po faireste of pam alle,—
AA brighte banere of blee whitte with three bore-hedis;
†† Be any crafte pat I kan Carmes thaym semy[th],
For pay are the [ledes] pat louen oure Lady to serue.
If I scholde say po sothe, it semys no nothire
Bot pat the freris with othere folke schall po felde wynn.

THE sexte es of sendell, and so are pay alle, Whitte als the whalles bone, who-so the sothe tellys,

With beltys of blake, bocled to-gedir,
The poyntes pared off rownde, po pendant[s] a-waye,
And alle the lethire appon lofte pat one-lowe hengeth
185 Schynethe † for scharpynynge of the schauynge iren.

†† The ordire of p° Austyns, for oughte pat I wene,
For by the blussche of the belte the banere I kn[o]we!
And othere synes I see †, sett appon lofte,
Some † witnesse of wolle, and some of wyne tounnes,

That I ne wote in my witt, for alle this werlde riche,
Whatt segge vnder the sonne can the sowme rekken.
And sekere one pat other syde are sadde men of armes,
Bolde sqwyeres of blode, bow[e]men many,

195 pat, if thay strike one stroke, stynt pay ne thynken Till owthir here appon hethe be hewen to dethe.

FOR-THI I bid 30w bothe that thaym broghte hedir †
That 3e wend with me, are any wrake falle,
To oure comely kyng that this kythe owethe;
200 And, fro he wiete wittirly where bowronge ristyth,
Thare nowthir wy † be wrothe to wirche als he d[em]eth'.
OF ayther rowte ther rode owte a renke, als me thoghte,
Knyghtis full comly one coursers attyred,
And sayden, 'Sir sandisman, sele the be-tyde!
205 Well knowe we the kyng; he clothes vs bothe,
And hase vs fosterde and fedde this fyve and twenty wyntere.

Now fare pou by-fore, and we schall followe aftire.'

And now are paire brydells vp-brayde, and [thay] bown one paire wayes.

Thay lighten down at be launde, and leue[n] thaire stedis, to Kayren vp at the clyffe, and one knees fallyn.

The kynge henttis [pam] by po handes, & hetys pam to ryse, And sayde, 'welcome t, heres, as hyne of oure house bothen.'

The kynge waytted one wyde, and the wyne aske[de]; Beryns broghte it anone in bolles of siluere.

And he pat wilnes of this werke to wete any forthire, Full freschely and faste, for here a fitt endes.

[FITT II.]

BOT than kerpede the kynge, sayd, 'kythe what 3e hatten, And whi the hates aren so hote 3 oure hertis by-twene.

220 If I schall deme 3 ow this day, dothe me to here.'

'Now certys, lorde,' sayde pat one, 'the sothe for to telle, I hatt Wynnere, a wy that alle this werlde helpis, For I leeldes cane lere, thurgh ledyng of witt.

Thoo pat spedfully will spare, and spende not to grete,

Witt wiendes me with, and wysses me faire;
Aye when [I] gadir my gudes, than glades myn hert.
Bot this felle false thefe pat by-fore 30we standes
Thynkes to strike or he styntt, and stroye me for euer.

230 Alle pat I wynn thurgh witt he wastes thurgh pryde;
I gedir, I glene, and he lattys goo sone;
I pryke and I pryne, and he the purse opynes.
Why hase this cayteffe no care how men corne sellen?
His londes liggen alle ley, his lomes aren solde,

235 Downn bene his dowfehowses, drye bene his poles;
The deuyll wounder† the wele he weldys at home,
Bot hungere and heghe ho[r]ses and howndes full kene!
Safe a sparthe and a spere sparrede in ane hyrne,
A bronde at his bede-hede, biddes he no nober

240 Bot a cuttede capill to cayre with to his frendes.

Then will he boste with his brande, & braundesche hym ofte,
This wikkede weryed thefe, that wastoure men calles,
That, if he life may longe, this lande will he stroye.

For-thi deme vs this daye, for Drightyns loue in heuen, 245 To fighte furthe with oure folke to owthire fey worthe.'

'BEE, wynnere,' quod wastoure, 'thi wordes are hye;
Bot I schall tell the a tale that tene schall the better.
When thou haste waltered and went and wakede alle ponyghte,

And iche a wy in this werlde that wonnes the abowte,

250 And hase werpede thy wyde howses full of wolle sakkes,—
The bemys benden at the rofe, siche bakone there hynges,
Stuffed are sterlynges vndere stelen bowndes,—
What scholde worthe of that wele, if no waste come?
Some [scholde] rote, some ruste, some raton[e]s fede.

Late the peple and the pore hafe parte of thi siluere;
For if thou wydwhare scholde walke, and waytten the sothe,
Thou scholdeste reme for rewthe, in siche ryfe bene the pore.
For, and thou lengare thus lyfe, leue thou no nober,

260 Thou schall be hanged in helle for that thou here spareste; For siche a synn haste pou solde thi soule in-to helle, And there es euer wellande woo, worlde with-owtten ende.'

LATE be thi worde, wastoure,' quod wynnere the riche.

Thou melleste of a mater, tho[u] madiste it thi-seluen,

With thi sturte and thi stryffe thou stroyeste vp my gudes;

In [wraxl]inge and in wakynge in wyntt[e]res nyghttis,

In owttrage, in vnthrifte, in angarte [of] pryde.

There es no wele in this werlde to wasschen thyn handes

That ne es gyffen and grounden are hou it getyn haue.

Thou ledis renkes in thy rowte wele ry[e]hely attyrede;

Some hafe girdills of golde, hat more gude coste

Than alle he faire fre londe that 3e by-fore haden.

3e folowe noghte 3oure fadirs pat fosterde 3ow alle A kynde herueste to cache, and cornes to wynn,

275 For p° colde wyntter and p° kene with [cleng]and[e] frostes,
Sythen dropeles drye in the dede monethe.

And thou wolle [te] to the tauerne, by-fore p° toune-hede,
Iche beryne redy withe a bolle to blerren thyn eghne,
Hete the whatte thou haue schalte, and whatt thyn hert lykes,

280 Wyfe, wedowe, or wenche, pat wonnes there aboute.

Then es there bott "fille in" & "feche forthe", Florence to schewe.

"Wee-hee", and "worthe vp", wordes ynewe.

Bot when this wele es a-waye, the wyne moste be payede fore:

Than lympis 30we weddis to laye, or 30ure londe selle.

285 For siche wikked werkes, wery the oure Lorde!

And for-thi God laughte that he louede, and leuede pat oper,
Iche freke one felde ogh po ferdere be to wirche.

Teche thy men for to tille and ty[n]en thyn feldes;
Rayse vp thi rent-howses, ryme vp thi zerdes,

pat es firste po faylynge of fode, and than the fire aftir,
To brene the alle at a birre, for thi bale dedis:
The more colde es to come, als me a clerke tolde.'

BEE, wynnere,' quod wastoure, 'thi wordes are vayne:

With oure festes and oure fare we feden the pore;

It es plesynge to the Prynce pat paradyse wroghte;

When Cristes peple hath parte hym payes alle the better

Then here ben hodirde and hidde and happede in cofers,

That it no sonn may see thurgh seuen wyntter ones;

300 Owthir it freres feche, when thou fey worthes,

To payntten with thaire pelers, or pergett with thaire walles. Thi sone and thi sektours, ichone se[w]es othere;

Maken dale aftir thi daye, for thou durste neuer Mawngery ne myndale, ne neuer myrthe louediste.

- pan a lighte lanterne late appone nyghte,
 When it es borne at thi bakke, beryn, be my trouthe.
 Now wolde God that it were als I wisse couthe,
 That thou, wynnere, thou wriche, and wanhope, thi brothir,
- 310 And eke ymbryne dayes, and euenes of sayntes,
 The Frydaye and his fere one the ferrere syde,
 Were drownede in the depe see there neuer droghte come,
 And dedly synn for thayre dede were endityde with twelue;
 And thies beryns one the bynches, with [biggins] one lofte
- 315 That bene knowen and kydde for clerkes of the beste,
 Als gude als Arestotle, or Austyn the wyse,
 That alle schent were those schalkes, and Scharshull itwiste,†
 pat saide I prikkede with powere his pese to distourbe!
 For-thi, comely kynge, that oure case heris,
- 320 Late vs swythe with oure swerdes swyngen to-gedirs;
 For now I se it es † sothe pat sayde es full 30re,—
 The richere of ranke wele, the rathere will drede:
 The more hauande pat he hathe, the more of hert feble.'
- BOT than this wrechede wynnere full wrothely he lukes,
 Sayse, 'pis es spedles speche to speken thies wordes!

 Loo, th[ou] w[eryed] wastoure, that wyde-whare es knawenn,
 Ne es nothir kaysser, ne kynge, ne knyghte pat the folowes,
 Barone, ne bachelere, ne beryn that thou loueste,
 Bot foure felawes or fyve, that the fayth ow[es];
- 330 And [bou] schall dighte thaym to dyne with dayntethes so many pat iche a wy in this werlde may wepyn for sorowe.

 The bores hede schall be broghte with [bayes] appon lofte, Buk-tayles full brode in brothes there be-syde,

 Venyson with the frumentes, and fesanttes full riche,

- 235 Baken mete ther-by one the burde sett,
 Chewettes of choppede flesche, charbiande fewlis,
 And iche a segge hat I see has sexe mens doke.
 If this were nedles note, anothir comes aftir,—
 Roste with the riche sewes, and the ryalle spyces,
- 340 Kiddes cleuen by poorigge, quarter[e]d swannes,
 Tartes of ten ynche, pat tenys myn hert
 To see poorige ouer-brade with blasande disches,
 Als it were a rayled rode with rynges and stones.
 The thirde mese to me were meruelle to rekken,
- 345 For alle es Martynmesse mete pat I with moste dele, Noghte bot worttes with the flesche, with-owt wilde fowle, Saue ane hene to hym that the howse owethe; And [3]e will hafe birdes bownn one a broche riche, Barnakes and buturs and many billed snyppes,
- 350 Larkes and lyngwhittes, lapped in sogoure,
 Wodcokkes and wodwales, full wellande hote,
 Teeles and titmoyses, to take what [30we] lykes;
 [Caudel]s of conynges, & custadis swete,
 [Daryo]ls & dische-metis, pat ful dere coste,
- 355 [Mawme]ne pat men clepen, 30ur mawes to fill,
 [Twelue] mese at a merke, by-twen twa men,
 [Thog]he bot brynneth for bale 30ur bowells with-in.
 [Me ten]yth at 30ur trompers, pay tounen so heghe
 [pat iche] a gome in pe gate goullyng may here:
- 360 [pan] wil pay say to pam-selfe, as pay samen ryden, 3e hafe no myster of pe helpe of pe heuen kyng.

 pus are 3e scorned by skyll, & scathed † peraftir,
 put rechen for a repaste a rawnsom of siluer.

 Bot one[s] I herd in a haule of a herdmans tong,—
- 365 Better were meles many pan a mery nyghte.'

 And he pat wilnes of pis werke for to wete forthe[r],
 Full freschely & faste, for here a fit endes.

FITT III.

'BEE, wynnere,' quod wastour, 'I wote well my-seluen What sall lympe of be lede, within [a lite] 3eris.

370 Th[en] be pure † plente of corne bat be peple sowes,
pat God will graunte, of his grace, to growe on be erthe,
Ay to appaire be pris, [bat it] passe nott to hye,
Schal make be to waxe wod for wanhope in erthe,
To hope aftir an harde zere, to honge bi-seluen.

375 Woldeste bou hafe lordis to lyfe as laddes on fote?

Prelates als prestes bat be parischen zemes?

Prowde marchandes of pris, as pedders in towns?

Late lordes lyfe als bam liste, laddes as bam falles,—
pay be bacon & beefe, bay botours & swannes,

380 pay po roughe of po rye, pay po rede whete,
pay po grewell gray, & pay po gude sewes;
& pen may po peple hafe parte in pouert pat standes,
Sum gud morsell of mete to mend with pair chere.
If fewlis flye schold forthe, & fongen be neuer,

385 & wild bestis in pe wodde wone al paire lyue, & fisches flete in pe flode, & ichone [fr]ete oper, Ane henne at ane halpeny by halfe zeris ende, Schold not a ladde be in londe a lorde for to serue. Pis wate pou full wele witterly pi-seluen,

390 Who so wele schal wyn, a wastour moste he fynde, For if it greues one gome, it gladdes anoper.'

'NOW,' quod wynner to wastour, 'me wondirs in hert Of thies poure penyles men hat peloure will by, Sadills of sendale, with sercles full riche.

395 Lesse [pat] 3e wrethe 30ur wifes, paire willes to folowe, 3e sellyn wodd aftir wodde in a wale tyme, Bothe po oke & po assche & all pat per growes;

b° spyres & þ° 30nge sprynge 3e spære to 30ur children & sayne God wil grant it his grace to grow at þ° last[e],

- 400 For to s[chadewe] 30ur sones: bot be schame es 30ur ownn.

 Nedeles saue 3e be soyle, for sell it 3e thynken.

 30ur forfadirs were fayne, when any frende come,

 For to schake to be schawe, & schewe hym be estres,

 In iche holt bat bay had ane hare for to fynde,
- To lache & to late goo, to lightten paire hertis.

 Now es it sett & solde, my sorowe es pe more,

 Waste[d] alle wilfully, 30ur wyfes to paye.

 That are had lordes in londe & ladyes riche,
- 410 Now are pay nysottes of pe new gett, so nysely attyred, With [si]de slabbande sleues, sleght to pe grounde, Ourlede all vmbtourne with ermyn aboute, pat † as harde [e]s, I hope, to handil in pe derne, Als a cely symple wenche pat neuer silke wroghte.
- How scho fled for ferd ferre out of hir kythe,
 Appon ane amblande asse, with-owtten more pride,
 Safe a barne in hir barme, & a broken heltre
 pat Joseph held in hys hande, pat hend for to zeme.
- 420 All-pofe scho walt al pis werlde, hir w[e]des wer pore; For to gyf ensample of siche, for to schewe oper †To leue pompe & pride, pat pouerte [e]schewes.'

THAN p[is] wastour wrothly [werped] vp his eghne, & said, 'pou wynnere, pou wriche, me wondirs in hert

425 What hafe oure clothes coste po, caytef, to by, pat pou schal birdes vp-brayd of paire bright wedis, Sythen pat we vouche safe pat po siluer payen. It lyes wele for a lede his leman to fynde, Aftir hir faire chere to forthir hir herte.

430 Then will scho loue hym lelely as hir lyfe one,
Make hym bolde & bown with brandes to smytte,
To schonn schenchipe & schame, per schalkes ere gadird;
& if my peple ben prode, me payes alle po better
To see ham faire & free to-fore with myn eghne;

435 & 3e negardes, appon nyghte, nappe † 3e † [neuer] so harde, R[axill]en at 3our r[outt]yng, raysen 3our hurd[i]es; Beden[e] † 3e wayte one þo wedir, þen wery 3e þo while, pat 3e [h]ade hightilde vp 3our houses, & 3our hyne [a]rayed. For-thi, wynnere, with wronge bou wastes þo tyme;

440 For gode day ne glade getys bou neuer.

p° deuyll at p¹ dede-day schal delyn p¹ gudis, p° pou woldest pat it w[a]re, wyn pay it neuer; p¹ skathill sectours schal seuer pam aboute, & pou hafe helle full hotte for pat pou here saued.

I hold hym madde pat mournes his mak[ande] † to wyn:

Hent hi[t] pat hi[t] haf schal, & hold hi[t] his while;

Take pe coppe as it comes, pe case as it falles;

For who-so lyfe may lengeste lympes to feche

450 Woodd pat he waste schall, to warmen his helys,
Ferrere pan his fadir dide by fyvetene myle.

Now kan I carpe no more; bot, Sir Kyng, by pt trouthe,
Deme vs where we duell schall: me thynke pt day hyes.

3it harde sore es myn [herte], & harmes me more

455 Euer to see in my syghte pat I in soule hate.

THE kynge louely lokes on poledis twayne,
Says, blynnes, beryns, of 30ur brethe and of 30ure bro[p]e
worde[s];

And I schal deme 30w this day where 3° duelle schall,
Aythere lede in a lond per he es loued moste.

460 Wende, wynnere, p¹ waye ouer p° wale stremys,

Passe forthe by Paris to be Pope of Rome; be cardynalls ken be wele, will kepe be ful faire, & make bi sydes in silken schetys to lygge, & fede be & foster be & forthir thyn hert,

465 As leefe to worthen wode as pe to wrethe ones.

Bot loke, lede, be pi lyfe, when I lettres sende,
pat pou hy pe to me home on horse or one fote;
And when I knowe pou will co[me], he schall cayre vttire,
And lenge with anoper lede, til pou pi lefe [lache];

47° For pofe pou bide in pis burgh to pi be[ryinge-day], With hym [falles] po neuer a fote for [to streeche].

And thou, wastoure, I will pat pou won[ne per euer]

per moste waste es of wele & wyng[es vn]till.

Chese po forthe in-to po chepe, a chambre pou rere,

475 Loke pi wyndowe be wyde, & wayte po aboute,
Where any ber[ande] † pote[ner] thurgh po burgh passe;
Teche hym to po tonne till he tayte worthe;
Doo hym drynk al nyste pat he dry be at morow,
Sythen ken hym to the crete to comforth his vaynes,

480 Brynge hym to Bred Strete, bikken [with] pⁱ fynger, Schew hym of fatt chepe scholdirs ynewe, Hotte for p^o hungry, a hen oper twayne, Sett hym softe one a sete, & sythen send after, Bryng out of p^o burgh p^o best pou may fynde,

485 & luke thi knave hafe a knoke bot he po clothe spred;
Bot late hym paye or he passe, & pik hym so clene
pat fynd a peny in his purse, & put owte his eghe.
When pat es dronken & don, duell per no longer,
Bot teche hym owt of the townn, to trotte aftir more

And ken wele pⁱ katour to knawen pⁱ fode,

The herons, p^o hasteletez, p^o henne[s] wele serue[d],

p^o pertrikes, p^o plouers, p^o oper pulled byrddes,

p° albus, þ[°] o[sul]les, þ° egretes dere;

495 þ° more þu wastis þi wele, þ° better þ° wynner lykes.

& wayte to me, þou wynnere, if þou wilt wele chese,

When I wende appon werre my wyes to lede;

For at þ° proude pale[y]s of Parys þ° riche

I thynk to do it in ded, & dub þ° to knyghte,

500 & giff giftes full grete of golde & of s[iluer],

To ledis of my legyance þat lufen me in hert,

& sythen kayren as I come, with knyghtis þat me foloen,

To þ° kirke of Colayne þer þ° kynges ligges

* * * *



WINNER AND WASTER MODERNIZED VERSION



HERE BEGINS A DISCOURSE AND GOOD SHORT DEBATE BETWEEN WINNER AND WASTER

[PROLOGUE.]

INCE Britain was builded, and Brutus possessed it, Through the taking of Troy by treason within, UStrange sights have been seen, in sundry reigns, But ne'er so many as now by the ninth part; 5 For all is Wit and Will wherewith we now deal. Wily words and sly, and each bewrays the other. In absence is no fondness, but faintness of heart; Dare no western wight, while the world lasteth, Send southward his son, to see or to hear, 10 But he shall hold behind, when hoar is his sire. Wherefore said was a saw of Solomon the wise,-It hieth hard at hand—how else can I trow!--When waves shall wax wild, and walls be down. And hares upon hearth-stones shall hurkle in their form, 15 And when boys of no blood, with boast and with pride, Shall wed ladies a-land, and lead them at will, Then dreadful Doomsday shall draw nigh thereafter. But who soberly will see, and the sooth will tell, Must say 'twill come soon, or surely is here. Whilom were lords in the land that loved in their hearts To hear makers of mirth, who matter could find Set in wisest words, never written before, Nor in any romance read ever or heard; But now a child in cheer, without chin-weeds,

25 Who ne'er wrought through wit three words together, Soon as he can jangle as a jay, and japes can tell,

Shall be believed and loved and lauded a-while
Well more than the man who himself maketh song.
But at last, ne'ertheless, when all leally are known,
30 Work shall bear witness who worketh the best.

FITT I.

But I shall tell you a tale that me betid once, As I went in the west, wand'ring alone, Along the bank of a brook,-bright was the sun,-'Neath a wondrous wood, by a winsome mead; 35 Many flowers enfolded where my foot stepped. I laid my head on a hill, a hawthorn beside; The throstles full throly 1 threped 2 together; Highwales 3 halloo'd up from hazels to others; Barnacles with their bills on barks rang out; 40 Loud jangled the jay, 'mid the joy of the birds; The brook full bravely ran the banks between. So raged the rough streams, and reached so high, It was nearing night ere nap might I have, For the din of the deep water and the daddering 4 of birds: 45 But at last, as I lay, lock'd were mine eyes; And swiftly in a dream swept was I thence. Methought I was in the world, wist I not where, On a lovely lawn, all alike green, Immurèd with mountains a mile round about. 50 In either holt was a host, in hawberks full bright, Hard hats on their heads, and helmets with crests; Unfurl'd were their banners, they busk'd them to meet; Shoving from the shaws, into squadrons they fell; And but the length of a lawn these liegemen between. And as I pray'd for the peace till the prince should come.

And as I pray'd for the peace till the prince should come, For he was worthier in wit than any wight else,

¹ keenly. ² debated, argued. ⁸ woodpeckers.

⁴ chattering.

To rid 1 and to rede,2 and to rule the wrath That either host on the heath had to the other, Lo, at the crest of a cliff a cabin was reared,

60 All arrayed with red the roof and the sides,
With English besants full bright, embossed in gold,
Girdled gaily about with garters of Ind;
With golden gear was each garter enriched;
And these words in the web worked were above,

65 Painted in plunket,³ with points put between, Formèd full fair, in fresh-hued letters; And all was it one saw in the English tongue,— 'Hething ⁴ have the hathel ⁵ that any harm thinketh!'

Now the King of this country, keep him our Lord!

70 High on the woodland a warrior up-stands,
Wrought as a wild man, all in wreathed 6 locks,
With a helm on his head, a hat aloft,
And on high on the hat a hateful beast,
A light leopard and long, looking full keen,

75 Graven of yellow gold in goodliest wise.

But that which hid the helm behind in the neck
Was cast full cleanly in quarters four,—
Two with flowers of France, the first and the hindmost,
And eke two of England, with six angry beasts,

At each corner a cluster of clearest pearl,
Silk tassels, tile-red, tutting out fair.
And by the cabin I knew the knight that I saw,
And thought to wit, ere I went, wonders enow.

85 And as I watched within I was ware anon Of a comly king crowned with gold,

¹ to part combatants.

² to advise.

⁸ light blue.

⁴ scorn, 'honi'.

⁵ man,

⁶ curled,

⁷ protruding.

On silken bench seated, with sceptrovia hand,-One of the leveliest lords, whose leveth him in heart, That subject 'neath sun ever saw with his eyes.

90 This king was comelily elad in kirtle and mantle, Berry-brown as his beard, broidered with birds, Falcons of fine gold flapping their wings, Each bearing emblazon'd, blue as me thought, A great garter of Ind, garnish'd full richly,

95 Gaily was that great lord girt in the middle, A belt bright of hue, broidered with birds, With drakes and with ducks, doddering that seemed. In fear of the falcons' feet, lest fast they were seized. And I said to myself, 'Full strange would it seem

100 If this lord to the river ride not betimes.'

The king biddeth a baron by him that standeth, One foremost in fame, that failed him never ;-Bethink, I dubbed thee knight with dints to deal. Wend quickly thy way my will to make known! 105 Go, bid you bold hosts of battle that on battlefield bide.

That they never come nigh any nearer each other: For, strike they one stroke, to stint think they never.' 'I serve, lord,' said that liege, 'while my life shall endure.'

He doth him down on the bank, and dwelleth a time.

110 Till he busk'd was and bound in the bravest array. He lapped his legs in iron to the lower bones; With pisane 2 and with pauneer,3 polish'd full bright; With braces of burnish'd steel, closely braided with rings: With plates buckled behind, the body to ward;

115 With a well-fitting jupon, i joined at the sides;

A broad scutcheon at the back; the breast had another;

² armour for the chest and neck.

s armour for the lower part of the body.

⁴ a short doublet.

Three wings within, truly wrought after kind,
Engirt with gold wire. When that warrior I knew,
Lo, he was youngest of years and yarest of wit
120 That any wight in this world wist of his age.
He brake a branch in his hand, and boldly it brandish'd;
Treads at a great trot, and takes his way
Where these folk at feud on the field abide.

He said, 'Lo, the king of this country—keep him our Lord!—
125 Sends bidding by me, as best him it pleaseth,
That no baron be so bold, on both his two eyes,
Once to strike one stroke, or to stir at all nearer
To lead a rout in his realm, none so regal to ween
Proudly with prowess his peace to disturb.

If any baron be so bold with banner to ride
Within this kingdom renown'd, save the king himself,
He shall lose the land and his life thereafter.
But since this custom ye ken not, nor the king's right,

Full wide have I walked this world up and down,
But saw I ne'er such a sight, sirs, with mine eyes;
For all the folk of France is here fared together,
Of Lorraine, of Lombardy, and of Low Spain;

Easterlings full many, of England, of Ireland,
That are stuffed in steel, strokes for to deal.

And yonder a Banner of black on the battlefield stands,
Three Bulls, white-blazon'd, embroidered within,
145 From each one a-hanging a hempen cord
With a solid lead seal. I say as me thinketh,—
He who head is of Holy Church here is, I trow,
All fierce for the fight with the folk that he leads.

A second Banner is upborne, with a bend of green,
150 With three heads white-haired, with hoods a-loft,
Curled full craftily, combed in the neck.
These are the liegemen of this land that our laws should
guard;

They think to deal this day with dints full many. I hold him a fool who fights while fliting 1 may help, 155 When he has found his friend that failed him never.

The third Banner on the battlefield is of bleached white, With six galags,² I see, of sable within,
Each with a brown strap, with buckles twain.

These are Saint Francis's folk, who say all flesh shall soon pass;
160 They are so fierce and so fresh; they fight but seldom.

I wot well for winning they went forth from home;
His purse weigheth full well who won them all hither.

The fourth Banner on the battlefield is borne up a-loft, With both borders of black, a ball in the middle,

165 Right such as the sun is in the summer-time,
When most is the madness on Midsummer Eve.
Thinketh Dominic this day with dints to deal;
Many a brilliant Brother his banner equippeth;
And since the Pope is so prompt these Preachers to help,

170 And Francis with his folk such a force hath besides
And all the lieges of the land leadeth through wit,
There is no man upon mould to match them against,
To get grace on the ground, under God Himself,

And yet the fifth on the field, the fairest of all,—
175 A bright Banner of white, with boar-heads three,—
By any craft that I ken they Carmelites seem;

¹ arguing, wrangling.

² shoes, galoshes.

They are the liegemen that love our Lady to serve. Should I say the sooth, it seemeth nought else Than that the friars with other folk the field shall win.

The sixth is of sendal, and so are they all,
White as the whale's bone, whoso the truth telleth,
With belts of black, buckled together,
The points pared round, the pendants away,
And aloft all the leather that low doth hang
185 Shines by the sharpening of the shaving-iron,—
The Order of the Austins, for aught that I ween,
For by a glimpse of the belt the banner I know!
And other signs see I here, set up on high,
Some witness of wool, and some of wine-tuns,
190 And other merchants' marks, so many, so thronged,
That in my wit I wot not, for all this world rich,
What sire 'neath the sun could the sum reckon up.

And strong on the other side are stout men of arms, Bold squires of blood, bowmen many, 195 That, strike they one stroke, stop will they never Till either host on the heath be hewn to death.

Wherefore bid I you both that brought them hither,
That ye wend with me, ere any woe befall,
To our comely king who this country owneth;
200 And, when he rightly hath reckon'd where resteth the
wrong,

Need neither be wroth to welcome his doom.

Of each rout rode out a rider, me thought,

Knights full comely on coursers arrayed,

Said,—'Sir Bringer-of-Bidding, bliss thee betide!

205 Well know we the king; he clotheth us both,

And hath foster'd and fed us these five and twenty winters. So fare thou before, we shall follow thee after.'

And now, their bridles braced up, they are bound on their way.

On the lawn they alight, and, leaving their steeds,
210 Come up by the cliff; on their knees fall they down.
The king takes them by the hand, tells them to rise;
'Sirs, welcome,' he said, 'servants both of our house.'
The king wended his gaze, and for the wine asketh;
Men brought it anon in bowls of silver.

And he that wishes to wit of this work any further, Fill up freshly and fast, for here a Fitt endeth.

FITT II.

DUT then spake the king: 'Declare how ye hight, DAnd why hatred so hot your hearts should divide. 220 Shall I doom you this day, do ye now let me hear.' 'Certes,' said the one, 'the sooth for to tell, I hight Winner, a wight who all the world helpeth, For folk from me learn, through leading of Wit; Who with speeding will spare, who spend not too much, 225 Live upon little, I love them the better. Wit with me wendeth, and wisely me teacheth. When I gather my goods, then gladdens my heart: But this fell false thief that before thee standeth Thinketh to strike ere he stint, to destroy me for ever. 230 All that I win through Wit he wasteth through pride; I gather, I glean, and he quickly lets go; I pin and I pinch, and he the purse opens. Why hath this caitiff no care how men corn sell?

Untill'd lie his lands; his tools are all sold:

235 Down are his dovecots, dry are his pools;
Devil-a-wonder the wealth he wieldeth at home,
But hunger and high horses and hounds full keen!
Save a halberd and a spear hid in a corner,
A blade at his bed's head, he biddeth nought else

240 But a cutted courser, to career to his friends:
Then will he boast with his blade, blust'ring about,
This wicked curst thief, whom Waster men call,
Who, if he live may long, this land will destroy.
Wherefore doom us this day, for the dear Lord's love,

245 To fight forth with our folk, till one of us falls.'

'Yea, Winner,' quoth Waster, 'thy words are big;
But I shall tell thee a tale that shall trouble thee more.
When thou hast toss'd and turn'd and travail'd all night,
And each wight in this world that with thee abides,
250 And hast stored thy wide houses with wool-sacks full,—
The beams bend at the roof, such bacon there hangs,
Stuffed are pounds sterling under steel bands—
What should wax of that wealth, if no waste were to
come?

Some would rot, some would rust, some rats would feed.

255 Let be the cramming of thy coffers, for Christ's love of heaven!

Let the people and the poor have part in thy silver;
For wouldst thou walk abroad, and watch what befalleth,
Thou wouldst weep for ruth, so rife be the poor.
Wherefore, if longer thou live thus, believe thou well
this,—

260 Thou shalt be hanged in hell for what thou here sparest. For such a sin thou hast sold thy soul into hell,

And there is aye-welling woe, world without end.'
'Leave thy words, Waster,' quoth Winner the rich,
'Thou mouthest of a matter thou madest thyself;

- ²⁶⁵ With thy stir and thy strife thou destroyest my goods, In wrestling and in waking in winter nights, In excess, in unthrift, in arrogance of pride.

 There is no wealth in this world, to wash thine hands with, That is not given and ground ere thou it have gotten.
- Thou leadest roisterers in thy rout well richly attired;
 Some have girdles of gold that more goods have cost
 Than all the fair free land that before was yours.
 Ye follow not your fathers that foster'd you all
 A kind harvest to catch and corn to win,
- ²⁷⁵ 'Gainst the cold winter and keen, with clinging frosts,
 And the dropless drought in the dead months after.
 But thou betakest thee to the tavern before the town-head,
 Each one ready with a bowl to blear both thine eyes,
 To proffer what thou shalt have, and what thy heart pleases,
- 280 Wife, widow, or wench, that is wont there to dwell.

 Then is it but 'Fill in!' and 'Fetch forth!' and Florrie appears;

'We-he!' and 'whoa-up!', words that suffice. But when this bliss is pass'd, the bill must be paid. Then must ye lay pledges, or your land must ye sell.

- And as the Lord took whom He loved, and left the other,
 The liefer to labour on land should each be.
 Teach thy folk to till, to fence tightly thy fields;
 Raise up thy rent houses, make roomy thy yards,
- 290 Or have as thou hast wrought, and hope for e'en worse—First the failing of food, and the fire thereafter,

 To burn thee all at one blast, for thy baleful deeds:

 Yet greater cold is to come, as me a clerk told.'

'Yea, Winner,' quoth Waster, 'thy words are vain;

295 With our feasts and our farings we feed the poor;

It is pleasing to the Prince that Paradise wrought.

When Christ's people have part it pleaseth Him better

Than if it be huddled and hidden and hoarded in coffers,

That no sun may it see through seven winters once;

300 Or that friars should fetch it, when fallen art thou,

To paint their pillars therewith, or plaster their walls.

Thy son and executors, each sueth the other;

After thy day make they dole, for durst thou never

Make feast or mind-ale, nor ever mirth lovedst.

305 A dole after thy day does for thee no more
Than a lighted lantern late in the night
Borne at thy back, beau sir, by my troth!

Now would God that it were as I well could devise,
That thou Winner, thou wretch, and Wanhope, thy brother,

310 And eke Ember-days and the Eves of Saints,

And Friday and his fellow that follows him after,
Were drowned in the deep sea where never drought should
come,

And Deadly Sin for their death were indicted by twelve.
And these barons on the bench with biggins a-loft,
315 That are known and acclaimed as clerks the best,
As good as Aristotle or Austin the wise,

Would they all were shamed, and Shareshull among them, Who said I prick'd with arm'd power his peace to disturb!

Wherefore, comely King, that our case dost now hear, 320 Let us swiftly with swords strike now together; For I see 'tis full sooth as said was of yore,

The richer in wealth, the rather will dread,—

The richer in wealth, the rather will dread,—
The more he hath to hold, the more feeble of heart.'

¹ Despair.

Then this wretched Winner wrathfully looks,
325 Says,—'Tis speedless speech to speak such words!

Lo, Waster, accursed, widely 'tis known,

Neither kaiser nor king nor knight thee doth follow,

Baron nor bachelor nor burgess thou lovest,

But four fellows or five who faith to thee owe;

330 And these thou dightest to dine with dainties so many

That each wight in this world may well weep for sorrow.

The boar's head shall be brought with bays aloft,

Bucktails full broad in broths therewithal,

Venison with the fruments, and pheasants full rich,

335 Baked meats near by, on the board well set, Chewets of chopped flesh, and chickens grilled; Each several guest has six men's share.

Were this not enough, another course follows,—Roast with rich sauces and roval spice,

340 Kids cleft in the back, quartered swans,
Tarts of ten inches. It tortures my heart
To see the board o'er-spread with blazing dishes,
As a rood arrayed with rings and with stones.
The third mess to me were a marvel to tell,

345 For all is Martinmass meat that I mostly know of,
Nought but worts with flesh-meat, without wild fowl,
Save a hen unto him that the house owneth;
And ye will have basted birds broach'd on a spit,
Barnacle-geese and bitterns, and many billed snipes,

350 Larks and linnets, lapp'd all in sugar,
Woodcocks and woodpeckers, full warm and hot,
Teals and titmice, to take what you please;
Caudels of conies, and custards sweet,
Dariols and dishmeats, that dearly cost,

355 Maumeny, as men call it, your maws to fill; Twelve dishes at a time between two men,

Basitted singet list our olde from mone o Stains so for enflower o obsta tollo 2 70 den atgo 20 de fermin to thruce to fe of softe motro of pul sogo after 30 souper the Herry Tit. Why his from depo 30 mid Booto fitte 2Botty & Dre Ardfing fall fir - 18 now at a morte by whom that mon to bee trymnetty Poz Balo to Bolsollo let in the Applier to fores Anger a figh in the and at to themselve the forment of people them has the attent of the a long of the land of Hos to other to go sonor wor for to we . The & some = \$8 the Bonky on may gors on pay rayte pa polo do pay fame 11 50 Actel. The go & Soyle for 18th 1- je togutt :so hat no my boff Holye of Gonow Eng 20 fe to fryorkage fly in their they frompo I we Vitto go stornos on Port to regarded of after After to Phate to Partie Provide of your to Tooten for a regration a partente of out An inte, f you, when she toto forto for note !! But one a Boy & to dyworks of a construction tous Brit to Feron the 25 where produce Bett boys motor now pit a may mysty And his of College of forther to to boto fathe Helen How and on sudde of more te lade A relate facto cubitor per o destro as lognago and lateful pitto to liber in dus water atte wifnly is to for to te propo Wast call lymp of & less with pasts got tatte do got to for There a let poo pretto they for tonger of 200 giome of agree of popula other Hate die yet reglotter de note out to most on But out to of your to to the your on forthe Leng otto plathange nondo Magy to popular an to and you tho A taple not to byje Dry lete att remotione sto Gymyn aderite signil. The fito bear that for the prototo part or de jujo do j years to betright if come for upor ofthe, In better acy o tobingo i pomon alod cety prompto though of non filto to coate Reitete i with la trote life to it to be motor on foto Ilanco do proport of Exprison gamos Bettop collissom ynty o on the lary of exemon a called antifered prodo for tolk Gold Pro Plat for for for for onteplin bottom have begacon to all partific water controlled Tope 1 Bayne ity, bayne the goten body o year Ino ambletiste affor to other man pira of apply your type you to p trong for to gone why fe gold eith they hende golden all pope pope thethered proton the and the popular retorion & porto nette perto i pento tember Hos a ry emptole of note forto prote of The one of the process to money to jet y tage to fee to lyno pompe apper of pointe ofte stigette o It followfix i gold for the A frageration non the is the to the out of the the the Flely E. Fir grange wond hi perjulyno + Man & for soil hop age mo soil jo the the legit flite of fle to target et ap to it yake one dutyonate party is & And Gener at the interent to halfe sprounds to is super by the at the dyano in contin En els not alkerse be in lande alerto fortofino Tyture is the wondy pas it of may for y seem is full sector sentily in Polyson the Bos for a spe gotomonta fyr. After, on, fly o eggs to factory on horizo the if objection one grow it of axeo Ano all gran trong to delete mo betynothe per with Tity lone of ately toy rife one It is a see so my word of settings of the of will be tout in the by trigger to fingthe



Though your bowels for bale may burn within.

Your trumpeters teen me, their tones are so loud,
Each wight on the way their warbling may hear,
360 And will say to themselves, side by side as they ride,
Ye have need of no help of the heavenly King:
Rightly scorn'd are ye thus, and suffer scathe after,
That reach for a repast a ransom of silver.

But once I heard in a hall from a herdman's tongue,— 365 'Better were meals many than a merry night.'

And he that wishes to wit of this work any further, Fill up freshly and fast, for here a Fitt endeth.

FITT III.

'YEA, Winner,' quoth Waster, 'I wot well myself What shall befall the folk within a few years.

370 Lo, the pure plenty of corn that the people sow,
That God will grant, in His grace, to grow on the earth,
To impair the price that it pass not too high,
Shall make thee wax mad, in wild despair,
Hoping for a hard year, and so hang thyself.

Wouldst thou have lords to live as lads a-foot?

Prelates as priests that the parishes guard?

Proud merchants of price, as pedlars o' the village?

Let lords live as they list, lads as befits them,—

These the bacon and beef, these bitterns and swans,

380 These the rough of the rye, these the ruddy wheat,
These the gray gruel, these the good sauce;
So may the people have their part, now in poverty bestead,
Some good morsel of meat to mend their ill cheer.

If fowl freely should fly, and frighted were never, 385 And wild beasts in the wood wallow'd all their lives, And fishes floated in the flood, each feeding on other, Then a hen at a halfpenny by half a year's end,

And not a lad in the land a lord for to serve!

This surely thou seeest, forsooth, for thyself,

390 He who wealth would win, a waster must find,

For if it grieveth one, it gladdeneth another.'

'Now,' quoth Winner to Waster, 'I wonder in heart At these poor penniless men, precious furs who buy, Saddles of sendal, with circles full rich!

395 Lest your wives ye make wroth, their wishes to follow,
Ye sell wood after wood in a short while,
Both the oak and the ash and all that there grows;
The sprouts and the saplings ye spare for your children,
And say God will grant, in His grace, that they grow in
the end

400 To give shade to your sons; but the shame is your own. Needlessly save ye the soil, for to sell it ye think.

Your forefathers were fain, when a friend to them came, To speed to the shaws, and to show him the coverts, In each holt that they had a hare for to find,

- 405 To bring to the broad lawns bucks a many,
 To catch and let go, so to lighten their hearts.
 Now all is offered and sold, my sorrow is the more,
 Wasted all wilfully, your wives to please.
 They who before had lords and ladies rich,
- Vith long trailing sleeves, that sweep to the ground, The borders all edged with ermine about.

 'Tis as hard, I trow, to handle them in the dark As a silly simple wench who silk never work'd.
- How she fled for fear afar from her kith,
 On an ambling ass, without any more pride,
 Save a bairn in her bosom, and a broken halter

That Joseph held in his hand, that high one to guard!

Though she ruled this rich world, her robe was but poor,

To give example of such, and to show others

To leave pomp and pride that poverty scorn.'

Then this Waster wrathfully wide open'd his eyes, Said,—'Thou Winner, thou wretch, I wonder in heart 425 What our clothes have cost thee, caitiff, to buy, That thou shouldst belles upbraid for their brightsome robes,

Since we them vouchsafe, who the silver pay! Well befits it a lover his lady to keep, As her form is fair to further her heart.

430 She will love him then leally alone as her life,

Make him bold and brave-hearted with blade for to smite,

To shun scandal and shame, where soldiers are gathered.

And if my people be proud, it pleases me better

To see them fair and free before mine own eyes.

435 And ye niggards, at night, nap ye never so hard,
Ye start 'mid your snoring, spring up on your haunches;
Anon watch ye the weather, bewailing the while
That ye embellish'd your houses, and your household arrayed.
Wherefore, wrongfully, Winner, thou wastest thy time,

440 For good day or glad gettest thou never.

The devil at thy death-day shall deal out thy goods;

Those thou wishest should wield them, ne'er shall them win;

Thy scatheful executors shall scatter them all, And thou hast hell full hot for what thou here savedst.

I hold him mad that worries such winnings to make.

Have it who it have shall, and hold it his while!

Take the cup as it comes, the case as it falls,

For who longest may live is likely to fetch
450 Wood that he waste must, to warm his heels,
Further than his father did by fifteen miles.
Now I care not to carp more. But, Sir King, by thy troth,
Deem where we shall dwell: the day, methinks, hieth.
Sore heavy my heart is, and my harm is the more
455 Still to see in my sight whom in soul I so hate.'

The king lovingly looks on those liegemen twain,
Says, 'Cease, sirs, your brawls, and your big bold words,
And I shall doom you this day where your dwellings shall
be,

To live in a land where each loved is the most. 460 Wend, Winner, thy way o'er the wild waves; Pass forth by Paris to the Pope of Rome; The cardinals ken thee well, will keep thee full fair, And in silken sheets thy sides will let lie, Will feed thee, and foster thee, and further thy heart, 465 As lief to wax mad as make thee once wroth. But look, sir, by thy life, when letters I send, That thou hie to me homeward on horse or a-foot, And when I know thou wilt come, he his congé shall take, And shall wend to another wight till thou wander forth; 470 For though thou bide in this burgh to thy burial day, With him shall befall thee ne'er a foot for to walk. And thou, Waster, I will thy wonted dwelling shall be Where most waste is of wealth, and wings thereunto. Choose thy way into Cheap, a chamber there rear, 475 See thy window be wide, and watch thence about, Where any with purse shall pass through the burgh. Teach him to the tun, till tight he becomes, Make him drink all the night, that he dry be at morrow; Then acquaint him with Crete, to comfort his veins;

A GOOD SHORT DEBATE

480 Bring him to Bread Street, beckon with finger,
Show him of fat sheep shoulders enow,
Hot for the hungry, and a hen or two.
Set him soft on a seat, and send then and fetch;
Bring out of the burgh the best thou canst find,

485 And look thy knave have a knock, if the cloth be not spread.

But let him pay ere he pass, and pick him so clean That devil a penny in his purse, and put out his eyes. When that is eaten and drunk, dwell there no longer, But teach him out of the town, to trot off for more.

490 Then pass to the Poultry, the people thee know,
Instruct thou thy steward to stock well thy food,
The herons, the haslets, the hens well served,
The partridges, the plovers, and other plucked birds,
The alps, and the ouzels, the egrets dear;

495 The more thou wasteth thy wealth, the more Winner thee loveth.

And watch for me, Winner, if wealth thou wouldst have,
When I wend in war my warriors to lead,
For at the proud Palace of Paris the rich
I mean to do in-deed, and to dub thee a knight,
500 And to give gifts full great, of gold and of silver,
To the leal in allegiance, who love me in heart;
And with folk that me follow then fare, as I came,
Unto the Kirk of Cologne, where the kings lie entombed...





'MS.' indicates Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 31042. Where a MS. reading differs from the text printed as an Appendix to The Parlement of Thre Ages (Roxburghe Club, 1897), the reading of the present edition may be considered correct, and due to fresh collation with the original. 'K' refers to the review of the 1897 volume by the late Professor Kölbing, Englische Studien, XXV. 2 (Breslau, 1898): B. = Dr. Henry Bradley (see the Notes on the respective lines).

I. TEXTUAL NOTES: EMENDATIONS

MS. READINGS.

EMENDATION IN TEXT.

4	nyne	nyn[d]e
5	wyles	wyl[l]e
6	Wyse *	Wylii
7	In MS, between 21 and 22	Transferred to between 6 and 8
	in	[o n
10	hore eldes	hore [for] eld es
15	of blode	of [no] blode
16	lede hir at will	lede at hir will
22		wr[iten]
25		thiree
26	japes telle	japes [can] telle
28	made it	ma[kes]
37	threpen	threpeldl
54		I[e]des
55	alle	(1 a)lis
58	hate	h[ethe] K.
64	thre	th[ies]
73	hattfull	hat[e]full
77	quarters	quarter[e]s
79	out	o[per]
	grym	[irous]
83	kynge	k[nyght]e
91	was	as
94	girde in the myddes	g[erede ful riche]
108	3 is	[y serue]
121	caughten	[brawndeschet]
125	Send his erande	Send[es bodworde]
127	no, none	n[e], no
129	with 3oure powers	with power[e]
132	b" kyngdome riche	þ ^e [kydde] kyngdome
134	kynge ryche	kynge[s] ry[t]he
136	amonges thies wyes one	wyes amonges
137	segge	segge[s]
144	bibulles	bulles
157	galeys	gale[g]s
158	bokels	bokel[e]s
163	was	[es]

TEXTUAL EMENDATIONS

164 166	balke When it hase moste of be	bal[l]e B.\ When moste [es] be ma[z]e
	maye	
167 176	That was In MS. between 185 and 187	Th[ynkes] Transferred to between 175 and
110	In Ms. between 105 and 101	177
	semyde	semy[th]
177	ordire	[ledes] K.
183	pendant schynethe alle for	pendant[s] schynethe for
186	In MS. between 175 and 177	Transferred to between 185 and
		187.
187	knewe	kn[o]we
188	segne	see
190	seghe some of witnesse some, merke	some witnesse [And oper], merke[s]
194	bowmen	bow[e]men
197	hedir broghte	broghte hedir
201	hedir broghte wyes, doeth	wy, d[em]eth
208	and bown	and [thay] bown
209	leued	leue[n]
919	leued henttis by welcomes	henttis [pam] by
213	askes	welcome aske[de]
215	sowrede	sowede
223	lordes when gadir	l[e]des
227	when gadir	when [I] gadir
236	wounder one the	wounder the
$237 \\ 254$		ho[r]ses
264		some [scholde] rote, raton[e]s tho[u]
266		[wraxl]inge K., wyntt[e]res
267	angarte pryde	angarte [of] pryde
-270	ryhely	ry[c]hely
-275	gleterand	[cleng]and[e] wolle [te] to
277	wolle to	wolle [te] to
200	tymen sees	ty[n]en
314	howes	se[w]es [biggins]
317	it wiste	itwiste B.
321	es full sothe	es sothe
326	this wrechide	th[ou] w[eryed]
320	howes it wiste es full sothe this wrechide owthe	ow[es]
330	he plontes quarterd	[bou]
340	quarterd	[bayes] quarter[e]d
348	he	[3]e
352		[30we]

TEXTUAL EMENDATIONS

353- 353	-60 MS. defective s (part of preceding 1	(see facsimile) *
000		[Condella
354	visible)	[Caudel]s
	ne	[Daryo]ls
		[Mawme]ne
357	Whole word torn away	[Twelue]
525	he	[Thog]he
950	Whole word town name.	[Me ten]yth
360	Whole word torn away	[pat iche]
900		
362	stroke of p visible schathed	[pan]
	one	scathed
		one[s]
260	forthe fewe	forthe[r]
370		[a lite]
010	0	Th[en]
372	poure &	pure
386		[bat it]
395	&r	[fr]ete K.
399	MS. defective	[þat]
	saue to	s[chadewe]
	brod + letter covered by blot	brod[e]
408	wastes	waste[d] K.
	elde	[si]de
413	bat es as harde as	pat as harde [e]s
415	pat es as harde as who so lukes on hir lyre	who-so [lykes] luke on hir
420	wordes	w[e]des
422	For to	To
	ofte schewes	[e]schewes
423	þe	þ[is]
	castis	[werped]
435	3e nappen so harde	nappe 3e [neuer] so harde
436	Routten, raxillyng, hurdes	R[axill]en, r[outt]yng,
	, , ,	hurd[i]es
437	3e beden	Beden[e] 3e
	nade, raysed	[h]ade, [a]rayed
	were	w[a]re
	tast tent	tast [no] tent
446	make for to	mak[ande] to
	hir hir hir	$hi[t] \dots hi[t] \dots hi[t]$
	myn &	myn [herte] & K.
	-	-

^{*} Mr. Gilson, the Keeper of the MSS. in the British Museum, has kindly, at my request, lifted a small portion of the paper covering up the gap in the MS., with the result that in 1. 353 1 shows before s; in 1. 355 ne before final -ne (there may be another stroke before the first-ne); in 1. 358 n before y. These new readings corroborate the readings proposed.

TEXTUAL EMENDATIONS

	brode worde	bro[b]e worde[s]
468-	73 MS. defective	31.41
468	co	co[me]
469	Whole word torn away	[lache]
470	be; tail of r visible	be [ryinge-day]
471	happyns	[falles]
	Whole word torn away	[to strecche]
472	won	won[ne ber euer]
473	wyng till (fragment of	wyng[es vn]till
	letter, possibly n, before till)	0 01 3
476	potet beryn	ber[ande] pote[ner]
480	bikken þi	bikken [with] b
492	henne	henne[s]
	serue	serue[d]
494	bis ober foules	þ[º] o[sul]les
498	pales	pale[y]s
500	s+letters rubbed out	s[iluer]

[PROLOGUE]

1.4. Op the opening of Sir Ganoayne, and the closing lines of the Alliterative Morte Arthure.

3. selcouthes: cp.

'Many selcouth shal be seene in all Christen landes'; 'But much selcouth shal be seene within short time'.

Collection of Ancient Scottisk Prophecies, reprinted from Walde-grave's edition, 1603; Bannatyne Club, 1833; 'Prophecy of Merlin', p. 8. Cp. 'ferlyes', Sir Gawayne, 23.

hathe: probably for 'hafe'; cp. 'owthe', 1. 329.

4. the nyn[d]e dele: MS. nyne dele.

5. Witt and Wyl[1]o: MS. wyles; the collocation recalls wyt and wille in the prophecies attributed to Thomas of Erceldoune:—

'When hares kendles ope herston; When Wyt & Wille werres togedere;

When rypt ant wrong ascenteb to gedere; When laddes weddeb louedis; etc.

Thomas of Erceldoune, ed. by J. A. H. Murray, E.E.T.S., 1875, p. xviii.

The whole passage, and especially II. 10 15, is reminiscent of this and other prophecies attributed to 'Rymour, Beid, Merling' and Waldhaue; cp. Collection of Ancient Scottish Prophecies, ibid.

'Wyles and Wit' is found in Piers Plowman, C. V. 77, where A. and

B. read 'Wisdom and Wit'.

6 7. Wy[ii]: MS. wyse, the scribe's eye has probably caught line 22; tine 7 is in the MS. between Il. 21, 22, but evidently belongs here.

frenchipe is used in the special sense of close kinship, the affection between kin, as 'frændi' in ON. and Scandinavian generally = kinsman, used of grandson, or son, or near relation. In the present passage the poet evidently refers to filial affection.

7. [o]n fere, MS. in fere; but the poet has in mind the M.E. proverb 'fer from ege, fer from herte', Proverbes of Hendyny, 1. 208.

10. [for] eld es: MS. eldes.

13. 'And hares on the hearth-stone shall crouch in their lair';

cp. 'This is a true talking that Thomas of tells,
That the hare shal hirpil on the hard stone,
In hope of grace but grace gets she non'; Collection, ibid., p. 38.

'hirpil' is a variant of 'hurkle'. Some burlesque alliterative lines in a MS. in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, of the fifteenth century give another variant-'the hare and harthestone hurtuld to-geydur', Reliquiae Antiquae, i, p. 84; 'whan hares kendles ope herston '.

14. boyes of [no] blode: MS. boyes of blode, i. e. lads of no blood, of poor birth; cp. 'when laddes weddeb louedes', in Note on 1. 5;

also cp.

I shal give you a token that Thomas of tells, When a lad with a Ladie shal goe ouer the fields, And many faire thing weeping for dread, For love of there deare freindes lies looking on hilles, That it shall be woe for to tel the teind of their sorrow': Collection, ibid., p. 39;

'Then shal Ladies laddes wed'; ibid., p. 17.

16. lede at hir will: MS. lede hir at will.

17. Thene dredfull domesdaye: cp. 'The dreadful day of destenie shall drive to the night', ibid., p. 7.

19. Cp. Matt. xxiv. 33 'scitote quia prope est in januis'.

20-30. makers of myrthes, i.e. minstrels who composed rhymes, 'rimours'; cp.

'And summe murthhes to maken, as munstrals cunne, And gete gold with here gle, giltles, I trowe; Bote iapers and iangelers, Iudas children, Founden hem fantasyes, and fooles hem maaden, And habbeth wit at heor wille, to worchen zif hem luste. That Poul precheth of hem, I dar not preouen heere; Qui loquitur turpiloquium, hee is Luciferes hyne.'

Piers Plowman, A. Prologue, 33-9: so in B., with 'synneles' for 'giltles' in some texts; in C. a noteworthy change is made :-

'And somme murthes to make, as mynstrals conneth, That wollen neyther swynke ne swete, bote swery grete othes, And fynde vp foule fantesyes,' etc.: further, cp.

'He is worse than Iudas that giveth a Iaper silver', B. IX. 90: 'And Iaperes and Iogeloures and Iangelers of gestes', B. X. 31. 'Lordes mynstralles' are mentioned in B. xiii. 229; the whole passage as modified in C. XVI should be noted.

Concerning minstrels, etc., cp. English Wayfaring Life in the Fourteenth Century, J. J. Jusserand, pp. 188-218; Strutt's Sports and

Pastimes: Ritson's Ancient Metrical Romances, etc.

22-8. Set within wise words such as were never written, Nor read in any romance that ever a man heard: But now a child in appearance, without chin-weeds, Who never composed through wit [three] words together, From the time he can jangle as a jay, and japes can tell, He shall be trusted and loved and made much of a-while, Well more than the man who himself wrote verse'.

22. wr[iten]: MS. wroghte: it is to be noted that the word is repeated in 1. 25.

25. th[ree]; MS. thies; cp. l. 64. 26. japes [can] telle: MS. japes telle.

28. ma[kes]: MS. made it; the scribe carelessly misread the text before him, or by reading 'it' attempted to justify the reading 'thies' for 'thrie' in 1, 25.

[FITT I]

32. Als I went in the weste, the conventional phrase in so many West-Midland and other poems; cp. 'By west of late as I dyd walke', Laing's Early Popular Scottish Poetry, ii, p. 74; 'As I wandrede her bi weste', Minor Poems of the Vernon MS., Part II, E.E.T.S., Original Scries 117, p. 696; 'Be west, vnder a wylde wode-syde', ibid., p. 658. On the forms of the Middle English 'Chansons d'Aventure', cp. Bryn Mawr College Monographs, vol. zii, by Helen Estabrook Sandison.

37. threpe[d]: MS. threpen; cp. 'And the throstills full throly

threpen in the bankes', Parlement of the Thre Ages, 1. 14.

38. Hipped vp hegh-walles, etc., i.e. 'the hickwalls (woodpeckers)

from the lowly hazels shouted up to other birds'.

Is 'hipped' an early instance of 'to hip', from 'hip' defined by Dr. Johnson as 'an exclamation or calling to one; the same as the Latin eho, heus'? The earliest reference in NED. to the interjection is 1752. It may be, however, that OF. huper from 'houp!', an exclamation of similar imitative origin, used in calling dogs, underlies 'hipped'. Anyhow, from the context it is clear that it is not to the hopping of the woodpecker, but to their noise, that the poet wishes to call attention.

The word 'high-wall', or 'hickwall' (see the many forms in NED. sub hickwall) embodies the 'loud laughing note' of the bird. The earliest occurrence in NED. is assigned to the fifteenth century 'hygh-whele', and variants are 'highawe, heche-wall, hicway'. EDD. adduces many folk-modifications; e.g. 'eeall, hakel, hoodall, yaffle, yockel'. 'Yike' in Surrey and Hampshire is used for the cry of the wood-

necker.

The second half of the word suggests influence of 'woodwall', where it has been suggested that wall = OE. wealh, strange, foreign; but the forms 'hickwaw', etc. seem to point to OE. wag, ME. wagh, wall; while 'hygh-whele', and the many variants ending in -el, le, still

further complicate the problem.

By some oversight, or intentionally, NED. does not suggest that the first part of 'hegh-wall' points to the stem of OE. higora, m.; higere, f., woodpecker, or magpie; e. OHG, hëhara, G. Häher, Gk. κ iora (= κ i κ ia), Sansk. kikidīvis; from an imitative root, representing the bird's cry. This is the only case, it is alleged, of the name of a singing bird common to Asia and Europe (ep. O. Schrader, Reallexikon der Indo-germanischen Alterthumskunde).

Riddle 24, in The Errer Book has for its subject ! Higom , which is given in Runic letters:-

· Ic eom wunderlieu wiht : wresne mine steine : Hwīlum beorce swā hund, hwīlum blæte swā gāt;'

'I am a strange creature; I change my voice;

At times I bark as a dog, at times I bleat as a goat. O'i English Builles; ed. Tupper, 1910; ed. A. J. Wyant, 1912. The yikeing laugh of the yaffle is quoted in STD, from Eless Titles, 1893.

48. lande: probably for 'launde'.

ol. Harde hattes appen hedes and helmys with crestys: cp. 1. 72. The 'cap of estate', which was worn on the helmet, and bore the crest, first appears in the reign of Liward III, op-Planché, Cyclopaedia of Costume, vol. i, p. 1.

54. 1[e]des: MS. lordes.

55. And alls I prayed: MS. And alle prayed; but the rival bests were most auxious to get at one another, and were her likely to pray for peace till the prince came. The line is perplexing in the MS. and I propose the reading in the text. The areamer not the combatauts, prayed for the coming of the king, and as he wanted lo" the royal pavilion (clearly that of Edward III) was reased at the crost of a cliff.

Probably some previous scribe had contrad to as in 1. 227), and

'alle' was evolved from 'als'.

58. appon h[ethe]: MS. hate; cp. 1. 196. 60. Cp. 'ryol red clope', Sir Gawayne, 1. 2036.

61. Ynglysse besantes: evidently a reference to Faward Ill's gold noble, first coined in 1344.

64. th ies]: MS. thre: co. 1.25, where MS. has "thres", evidently

for 'thrie' or 'thre'.

68. Hethyng have the hathell but any harme thynkes : newhere else is found an early English version of 'Hom son out mally perse'. or perhaps the motto without 'v', as found written at the end

of the MS. of Sir Gawayne.

69. This seems to be a loval exclamation on the part of the poet, re-1. 124. On the other hand, I hazard the suggestion that possibly the ery 'God save the king of this land' comes from the bests, and that 'vpon heghe one the helt 'may mean 'recebeed in the belt (though 'in' rather than 'one' would then be required). If so, it is in answer to this cry that 'ane harbell up stonies'. A someolon would be required after 'holt' if this is the correct interpretation of the lines.

Now introduces the new episode, and the expectation of the dreamer, when he recognized the Royal Pavilion, that the Prince for

whom he was praying would soon be visible.

The difficulty is the word 'helt', which ordinarily means 'wood' as in 1. 50. Here, if used in the sense of rough hill has in later Bughsh and also in leelandie, it is noteworthy and possibly due to a soribal substitution for 'hulle', hill, i.e. the cliff mentioned in 1, 59.

70-1. Among the earliest records of the Order of the Garter, 1347-9,

occurs the following :-

'Et ad faciendum tria hernesia pro R. quorum duo de velvetto alb, operata cum Garteriis de blu et diasprez per totam campedinem cum Wodehouses', etc.; Beltz, in his Memorials of the Order of the Garter, p. 380, prints the passage, and glosses the last word 'Qy. Woodwalls, or Wittwalls, birds of the species of Woodpeckers?' 'Wodehouse' is heraldically a satyr or savage man, and is a corruption of 'wodwyse' or 'wode-wose', OE. wudu-wasa. Is the man here described the Garter Herald? It would appear from the passage quoted that the king's Garter Robe was embroidered with 'woodhouses'. Members of the many families bearing the name, and other families also, had no doubt savage men as part of their coats of arms; cp. 'rouch wodwyss wyld', as supporters of the Douglas shields, Buke of the Howlat, l. 616. Robert de Wodehouse, the treasurer of the Exchequer, who died about 1345, was a well-known member of a Norfolk family; the Earl of Kimberley is descended from his eldest brother. Sir William Wodehouse.

72. ane hatte appon lofte: this is first found on the great seal made for Edward III after the Peace of Brétigny in 1340. It is illustrated, together with the Plantagenet shield, in the Armorial de

Gueldre (J. Woodward, Treatise on Heraldry, vol. ii, plate xi).

73. hat[e]full: MS. hattfull.

76, that pat hillede the helme: from the back of the cap there hung a kind of floating veil, protecting the neck; this is the origin of the heraldic mantling.

77. quarter[e]s: MS. quarters.

78-80. 'Two quarters had flowers of France', the lilies, namely, the first quarter and the last; and the two other quarters had six fierce beasts of England,—three leopards in the upper half (in the second quarter), and three in the lower position beneath (i. e. in the third quarter).

Fleurs de lys, the device of the Royal Shield of France—'France Ancient'—were quartered with the lions of England, in 1337, when Edward III claimed the crown of France. This shield, semée of fleurs de lys, i.e. with fleurs de lys scattered freely, must be distinguished from the later shield of 'France Modern'—six fleurs de lys,

quartered by Henry IV on his shield about 1405.

The Lions of the Royal Shield of England were described heraldically as 'leopards', 'lions leopardés', i.e. lions passant gardant. 'A lion walking and looking about him, the early heralds held to be acting the part of a leopard; consequently when he was in any such attitude, they blazoned him as "a leopard" (English Heraldry, C. Boutell, p. 84). Hence, the poet mentions 'flowers of France', without specifying the number, but gives the actual number of leopards, three in each of the second and third quarters. In the heraldic Le Siege de Karlaverok, giving the accurate blazon of above one hundred Knights or Bannerets of the reign of Edward I, the Royal Banner is described,—

K

'En sa baniere trois luparte \times
De or fin estoint mis en rouge
Courant felloun fier et harouge,'-

i. e. 'in his banner were three leopards courant of fine gold, set on red, fierce, haughty, and cruel', etc. (p. 22).

Cp. 'Both be lely and be lipard' suld geder on a grene,'
Minot's Poems, xi. 3 (ed. J. Hall).

78. be-fore and be-hynde: i.e. in the first quarter and the last. Cp. OF. devant, used heraldically for the first quarter; e.g.

'Se ot devant un blanche estoile', which had a white star in the first quarter (not 'in the upper part', as the editor renders it). Le Siege de Karlaverok, ed. Nicholas Harris Nicolas, 1828, p. 26.

79. o[per], [irous]: MS. out, grym.

83. k[nyght]e: MS. kynge. 'And by the cabin I identified the

knight I saw'; cp. 1. 187.

88. One of the louelyeste ledis, etc. Cp. 'His body was comely, and his face like the face of a god, wherefrom so marvellous grace shone forth that whosever openly considered his countenance, or dreamed thereof by night, conceived a sure and certain hope of pleasant solace and good fortune that day;' from the Continuation to 1380 of Adam of Murimuth (?1275-1347), trans. by Thomas Hog (English Historical

Society), 1846, p. 226.

90. kirtill and mantill: evidently the surcoat, or tunic, and mantle of the Garter. Beltz quotes for the year 1351, from the fragment of an account of payments, 'robes for the king, consisting of four garments of red velvet, against the feast of St. George, namely, two surcoats (supertunicae), one vest (tunica) with hood, and one cloak, embroidered over with clouds of silver [one of the royal badges] and eagles of pearl and gold, viz. under every alternate cloud an eagle of pearl, and under each of the other clouds a golden eagle; every eagle having in his beak a garter, with the motto "Hony", etc. embroidered thereon: 'etc. (Memorials of the Order of the Garter, pp. 3, 4).

91. Bery-brown ast his berde: MS. was. According to the poet,

1. 206, he was now about forty.

In one of the Cottonian MSS., Nero D. VI, reproduced in Strutt's Regal and Ecclesiastical Antiquities of England, no. LIII., is a fine illumination depicting Edward III in 1357; the 'bery-brown' beard is noteworthy.

Evidently both the royal kirtle and mantle were made of 'brown

bleaunt'; cp.

'A mere mantyle ...

Of a broun bleeaunt enbrauded ful ryche,

Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 879.

'In o robe Tristrem was boun . . . Was of a blihand broun;'

Sir Trist, I. xxxviii.

94. g[erede ful riche]: MS. girde in the myddes.

100. The king's fondness for hawking, etc., was proverbial. Froissart, speaking of the campaign of 1360, says: 'Et avec ce le roi avoit bien pour lui trente fauconniers à cheval chargés d'oiseaux et bien soixante couples de forts chiens et autant de lévriers, dont il alloit chacun jour ou en chasse ou en rivière, ainsi qu'il lui plaisoit.' (Bk. I, ch. cdxli, Collection des chroniques nationales françaises; cp. Strutt's Sports and Pastimes of the People of England, 1831, Bk. I.

101. a beryn, i. e. the Black Prince.

103. knyghte: perhaps the poet wrote 'duk', as the alliteration requires; cp. '& haf dyst sonder dere a duk to have worked',

Sir Gawayne, 1. 678.

108. 'Y serue, lorde', etc.; MS. 3 is lorde'. The second half of the line, namely, 'while my life shall endure', presupposes some such phrase as 'I am your servant'; cp.

'Merci, madame, zoure mon schal I worthe, To worchen soure wille, while my lyf dureth':

Piers Plowman, A. XI. 100.

There can be little doubt that '3is' is a scribal substitution for 'I serve', the poet's Englishing of 'Ich dene', the Black Prince's motto (now 'Ich dien'; see my letters on the subject in the Times Literary Supplement, August 1, 8, and 22, 1918). This would rightly lead up to the reference to the Ostrich Feathers, and would be characteristic of the poet who had already given an English rendering of 'Honi soit', the motto of the Garter.

In view of the many scribal changes in the text, the original reading

of the line may well have been-

'I serue, lorde', said be lede, 'while my life dures'; the movement of the first half of this line may be compared with that

'Y serue', contracted (for the northern form ser = serue), would

readily suggest 'Yis'.

110. It is noteworthy that, as the errand is one of peace, he goes without helmet and shield; but, unlike the Green Knight, he wears a 'pisan' and a 'pawnce' and 'plates'; cp.

'Wheber hade he no helme ne hawbergh nauber, Ne no pysan, ne no plate bat pented to armes, Ne no schafte, ne no schelde, to schwue ne to smyte,

But in his on honde', etc.

Gaw. & Gr. Kn., 11. 203-6; see, also, note on 1. 121. 115. jupown: this was a tunic worn either under the armour as in Chaucer, Prol. 75, or above, as here and in the Allit. Morte Arthure, 1. 905. In the latter case it took the place of the cote-armure, and was embroidered with armorial bearings. On the Black Prince's effigy at Canterbury, his jupon is embroidered with the arms of the Plantagenets, as described in l. 76, etc.; so also is the jupon itself which hangs above the tomb; cp. Planche's Cyclopaedia of Costume, vol. i, p. 317, for a reproduction of this, and also an illustration from Add. MSS. Brit. Mus. 12228, of a king putting on his jupon, which

opens down both sides. The Black Prince's was laced at the

back.

116. A brod chechun, i. e. a broad scutcheon, or escutcheon; for the various spellings cp. NED. sub escutcheon and scutcheon. The present form is not recorded, but cp. skecons, Coventry Leet Book, p. 200; squechonis, Ralf Coilzear, 632. In view of the present passage, there is special point in the following quotation in NED. under the year 1594, from the Buccleugh MSS.: 'He is upon a journey, messenger-like, with a skuchin on his breast.'

117-18. This is probably the earliest reference in English to the Prince of Wales's feathers. Within the escutcheon were 'three wings'

(i. e. full and large feathers), wrought naturally.

It is noteworthy that the Ostrich Feathers are here used as a token of peace. In his will the Black Prince specially referred, 'pur la

paix', to 'nos bages des plumes d'ostruce'.

wynges; it is noteworthy that OE, febera, pl. of 'feber', was used in the sense of wings, though the more common form for 'wing' was 'fibere'. So, in ME., possibly by the coalescing of the two words, 'feathers' = wings. Hence, perhaps, the use in the present passage of 'wings' for 'feathers'.

wroghte in the kynde: the poet wishes to imply that no one

would have doubted that they were ostrich feathers.

Vmbygon: cp. 'Her [h]ere [h]eke al hyr vmbe-gon', Perle, l. 210, where, as in the present passage, the past participle has almost the adverbial force of 'all about, all around'; 'engirt with a gold wire' might perhaps give the force of the words.

119. 'When I saw him, lo, he was youngest of years', etc. The exclamatory use of 'what' gives a vivid effect to the statement. The Prince was about twenty-one at the date of the action of the poem.

121. He brake a braunche in his hand; cp.

'Re may be seker bi bis braunch bat I bere here. pat I passe as in pes, & no plyst seche; For had I founded in fere, in festyng wyse, I have a hauberghe at home, & a helme bobe, A schelde, & a scharp spere, schinande bryst, And oper weppenes to welde, I were wel als, But for I wolde no were, my wede; ar softer';

Gaw. & Gr. Kn., 11, 265-71.

The 'branch' as the symbol of peace was derived from the 'olivebranch' (Genesis viii. 11); cp.

'Twelue messegers til hym were sent . . . wyb olyue braunches in handes born'. Robert Brunne, Chron. Wace (Rolls), 11446. 'The Green Knight', in Gaw. & Gr. Kn.,

'in his on honde he hade a holyn bobbe (i.e. a bunch of holly). pat is grattest in grene, when greue; ar bare'. [brawndeschet]: MS. caughten; cp. 'And brawndeschet that

brighte swerde', Parl. of Thre Ages, 1. 504.

125. Send[es] [bodworde]: MS. Send his erande; cp. 'And than bodworde vnto [Balame] full boldly he sendys', Parl. of Thre Ages,

1. 558. Kölbing suggests 'sonde' for 'erande', but this will not satisfy the requirements of the alliteration.

by: this takes the alliteration of the line, cp. 1. 101; and note,

also, that 'with' is treated similarly in 11. 198 and 346.

127. n[e], no: MS. no, none.

128. so ryall: parallel to 'so bolde'. Perhaps 'none' or 'ne' has been omitted by the scribe before 'so'.

129. with power[e]: MS. with soure powers.

130. For this es the vsage: evidently a reference to the Statute of Treasons, 1352; it is there stated that 'if percase any man of this realm ride armed [covertly] or secretly with men of arms against any other . . . it shall be judged felony or trespass, according to the Laws of the Land of old time used, and according as the case requireth' (Statutes of the Realm, I, p. 320).

132. [kyd]: MS. pe kyngdome riche.
133. the londe. The loss of the land seems to imply outlawry, and

not merely the loss of lands.

134. Botsen ze knowe noghte this kythe ne the kynge[s] ry[t]he: MS. kynge ryche. The scribe, evidently thinking that 'kythe' here is the word used in the preceding phrase, 'the kyng of this kyth', 1. 124, has endeavoured to make sense of the line by reading 'kynge ryche' instead of 'kynges rythe'. 'Kyth' in the sense of 'rule, procedure', is not uncommon in Middle English. Cp. e.g. '& knowest alle be kuppes bat to kourt langes', William of Palerne, 332. The spelling 'ryth' for 'ryzt' is found in the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries; cp. e.g. ' pat rith wolde bei hadde', Richard the Redeless, II. 137. 'Kynge[s] ry[t]he' = the king's right or prerogative; cp. ON. konungsrettr, king's right.

136. wyes amonges: MS. amonges thies wyes one. A scribe has caught 'one' from the previous line, and further, the force of the

whole line has been misunderstood.

137. segge[s]: MS. segge.

139. Of Lorreyne, of Lumbardye: cp. 'In Lorayne or Lum-

berdye', Allit. Morte Arthure, 1, 350; so, 1, 429.

140. Wyes of Westwale: cp. 'Wyes of the Westfale', ibid., 1. 2826; 'The wyese of the Westuale', 1. 2656; 'Alle Westwale

of werre he wynnys', 1. 621.

141. Of Ynglonde, of Yrlonde, Estirlynges full many: perhaps the earliest instance of Easter-lings, i.e. Hanseatic merchants, in English. According to NED., 'the word seems' not to be found as English before the sixteenth century'; but this is not so; it occurs in Libel of English Policie, c. 1425 (T. Wright, Political Poems and Songs, vol. ii, p. 169). The line means 'Hansemen many of England and Ireland', i.e. many German merchants in England and Ireland. The Hanseatic merchants held a strong position in Ireland.

All the foreign merchants have evidently come to England for the purpose of 'winning', and the reference gains point in view of the generous and easy policy of Edward III towards merchant-

strangers.

144-8. thre bulles: MS. bibulles. The scribe has evidently improved on the poet, whose device for the Pope was obvious. Perhaps the scribal change was deliberate, in order to suggest theological learning. The cord attached to each bull, 'sealed with a heavy seal', further describes the characteristic device.

As regards the Pope referred to, vide Preface.

149. The lawyers' banner has 'a bend of green'; cp.

'Vche burne of be brober-hede a bauderyk schulde haue,

A bende, a-belef hym aboute, of a bryst grene.'

Gawayne, l. 2516. Evidently Scharshull and the other 'beryns one the bynches', cp. ll. 314-18, are in the poet's mind, as representing the lawyers. The device of 'thre hadis white-herede with howes one lofte' suggests the 'serjeaunts atte lawe', with their coifs. But, while in Gawayne the 'bend of green' is associated with some great order, here the reference is to that oppressive source of casual revenue (profitable to the lawyers as a class) known as 'the Green Wax' (see Preface); cp. C. Vernon, Considerations for regulating the Exchequer (1642); T. Madox, History of the Exchequer (1769); F. S. Thomas, Ancient Exchequer, 1848, Hubert Hall, The Antiquities and Curiosities of the Exchequer (1898).

154. flyttynge, i.e. 'flyting', legal argument, discussion, without

reference to the ordinary sense of vituperation.

155. his frende, i. e. Waster, the lawyers' best friend.

157. With seve gale[g]s: MS. galeys. The scribe, puzzled by the rare word 'galegs', i.e. galoshes or shoes, has transformed the Franciscans' device into galleys; see Preface.

158. iche one has a brown brase: each galosh had a brown strap.

159. pat sayen alle schall fey worthe, who say all men are about to die, i.e. that the end of the world is near.

161-2. The poet seems to suggest that these Franciscans were mere mercenaries; the Genoese mercenaries were notorious.

163. [es]: MS. was.

164. With bothe the brerdes of blake, i. e. with the two borderlines of black, the border running round the banner, and the border

of the scutcheon placed within the banner.

bal[1]e: MS. balke. The 'll' in the MS. from which the scribe copied had probably a mark linking the two letters, easily read as 'lk', as in many instances (cp. Dr. Henry Bradley, Athenœum, May 23, 1903).

166. When moste [es] be ma[z]e: MS. When it has moste of be

maye.

'Ma[z]e' was probably so written that the long 'z' was taken as 'y', and then the line was emended to make some sort of sense, resulting in what seems to be nonsense.

 b° maze = midsummer madness, i.e. when midsummer madness

is greatest, at Midsummer Eve.

167. Th[ynkes]: MS. that was; cp. 153.

The arms suggest Dominican pride, and I very much doubt whether there is any reference, as has been suggested, to any specific arms

borne by the Order. The author of *Pierce the Ploughman's Crede* has much to say concerning the ostentation of these 'prechoures' (cp. P. P. Crede, ll. 153-267; 352-81).

169. Cp. 'we ben proued be priis of popes at Rome', ibid., 1. 256. 174-7. There seems to be some confusion here, for the Carmelites and not the Augustines were 'Maries men'; cp.

'bei makeb hem Maries men, (so bei men tellen), And lieb on our Ladie many a long tale', etc.

ibid., 11. 48-97.

'[We Karmes] lyven by our Lady and lelly hir seruen, In clene comun life kepen vs out of synne; Nowt proude as Prechours beb', etc.

ibid., 11. 384-6.

The Augustines, or Austin Friars, wore black, with a leathern girdle; the Carmelites were called 'the White Friars', from their white dress over a dark brown tunic. The 'belts of black' on the banner of the Carmelites, l. 182, ought to have been on the banner of the Augustines (cp. Athenœum, May 23, 1903), but I cannot believe that the poet made so serious a blunder as to confuse the two Orders, and in view of the extreme carelessness of the present MS. I suggest that ll. 176 and 186 have been transposed. I have restored them to their respective places.

175. three bore-hedis: a common heraldic sign; cp. Libeaus

Desconus, l. 1657, ed. E. Kölbing.

177. [ledes]: MS. ordire.

182. With beltys of blake, etc. This is the device on the standard; these friars, who are evidently very careful about their personal appearance, use their girdles as strops.

183. pendant[s]: MS. pendant.

The points of the belts were rounded off, there were no pendants, 'And all the leather that hangs down, emblazoned on the banner, Shines by the sharpening of the shaving-iron, i. e. the razor.'

185. schynethe for: MS. schynethe alle for.

187. kn[o]we: MS. knewe.

188. see: MS. seghe.

189-90. Somet witnesse of wolle, and some of wyne-tounnes, [&] o[per] merchandes merke[s] so many and so thikke, etc.

MS. 'Some of witnesse . . .

Some of merchandes merke,' etc.

The poet means to say, 'Some (of the emblems) tell of wool, and some of wine-tuns: and here are other merchant-marks, so many and so densely crowded, that I know not, etc.' The wool-merchants were no doubt represented by wool-packs (cp. Costume on Brasses, Herbert Druitt, pp. 201, 204, etc., and the wine-merchants by wine-casks (ibid., p. 203).

A scribe has evidently misunderstood 'witnesse' as a noun, and misread 'oper' in the second line as 'of'; the sense was spoilt by the repetition of 'some', as the wool-packs and wine-casks were

merchant signs, and the speaker wished to refer to 'other merchant-signs'.

For 'merchants' marks' cp. 'merkes of marchauntes', Piers

Ploughman's Crede, 1. 177.

On the woollen industry, and its all-important place in the economic policy of Edward III's reign, cp. The Economic History of England, Chapter IX, by E. Lipson, 1915. On the wine trade there is a noteworthy chapter in Professor Unwin's Finance and Trade under Edward III, dealing more particularly with the wine trade with Gascony.

In Gower's Mirour de l'omme, 'Wool' is apostrophized as 'the goddess of merchants',—'O beautiful, O white, O delightful one, the love of you stings and binds so that the hearts who make merchandise of you are not able to disengage themselves from you,' etc. (Translated by A. R. Benham, English Literature, A Source Book, 1916, p. 251.)

Waster, in l. 250, makes Winner rich in wool.

193. After his long enumeration of the forces on Winner's side, the poet deals in a very summary fashion with those on the other side, Waster's followers.

194. bow[e]men: MS. bowmen.

197. broghte hedir, MS. hedir broghte.

200. fro: (?) from the moment when, as soon as; one would expect 'to', i. e. until.

201. wye, d[em]eth: MS. wyes, doeth.

There = it behoves; it behoves (i. e. it avails) neither wight to be wroth, to act as he purposes.

206. this fyve and twenty wyntere: vide Preface.

208. and [thay] bown: MS. and bown.

209. leue[n]: MS. leued.

211. henttis [pam] by: MS. henttis by.

212. welcome, heres: MS. welcomes heres; cp. 'Welcom, wye', Wars of Alex., l. 2302. 'Here' = master, lord, man; cp.

'(Happye) is be here in no hate lengis, Ne letis bele in his brest wherof bale rises'.

Alliterative Troy Book, l. 1432;

ibid., l. 13573.

"Here at hond is pat hery", the hend to hym saide: ben he gird to be gome with a grym swerde."

213. aske[de]: MS. askes.

215. it sowede to bothe myn eghne: MS. sowrede. The scribe did not know the obscure word to sow, usually with sore; cp.

'And when he sotted my syghte, than sowed myn hert,'

Parlement of the Thre Ages, 1. 286;

'When he sailed in be Swin it sowed him sare,' Minot, v. 12;

Source suld him sowe, bot he be cite zeld'

(B. saire suld he sike, bot he be cite zelde),

Wars of Alex., l. 2313. 217. full: cp. l. 367. This first occurrence of the refrain may give the correct form, though 'fille in', l. 281, suggests 'fille' as possibly the poet's word also here; the scribe may have missed the

meaning of 'fille', and written 'full' as an intensive adverb. On the other hand, 'fulle' is a variant of 'fille'; cp.

'In couenaunt that Clement schulde the cuppe fulle'

Piers Plowman, A. V. 184 (B. fille, C. fylle).

[Fitt II.]

223. l[e]des: MS. lordes; cp. l. 54, and 'wordes' for wedes, l. 420. 225. littill-whattes: the ordinary phrase in Middle English is either (1) 'a littil what', i. e. a small portion or quantity, or (2) 'littles what', or 'what littles', little or nothing, a trifling quantity; the latter is rather earlier in date than the former. Possibly our poet wrote 'littles what'.

h[e]m: MS. hym.

227. when [I] gadir: MS. when gadir.

232. I pryke and I pryne, i. e. I pin and I sew up.

233. Cp. 11. 368-74.

236. The double wounder' the wele, MS. 'the double wounder one the wele'. Evidently the scribe did not understand the idiom, and made 'wonder' a verb. 'The double wounder' = nowise wondrous (cp. 1. 487) (with adjectival use of 'wonder'); so that 'the double wounder' = 'the double wounder' = 'devil a wonder'!

237. Bot hungere: cp.

"Nou be the peril of my soule", quath Pers the plouh-mon,

"I schal a-peiren ow alle for oure proude wordes!

And hoped aftur Hunger tho, that herde him atte furste: "A-wrek me on this wastors', quod Pers, "that this world schendeth!"

Hongur in haste hente Wastor bi the mawe,' etc.

Piers Plowman, A. vii. 157.

heghe ho[r]ses: MS. howses; the phrase is perhaps a reminiscence of the Debate of the Body and the Soul; cp.

'Thow that were woned to ride heyze (printed heyre') on horse in

and out', p. 334, l. 9.

Poems of Walter Mapes, ed. T. Wright, Camden Society, 1841. The description of Waster should be compared with that of Youth in the Parlement of the Thre Ages, ll. 109-93, and especially 'a hathelle on ane heghe horse', l. 111, and the words of Middle Age, ll. 183-93, who corresponds in many respects to Winner in the present poem.

248. went, i. e. turned about; cp.

'Bot walwyb & wyndib: & waltreb a-boute.'

The Siege of Jerusalem, 732.

For 'wyndip' the other MSS. read 'wendith', 'wrythis', 'turned'. 254. 'Some [scholde] rote, some ruste', etc.: MS. some rote; cp. 'Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt'; Matthew vi. 19.

264. tho[u]: MS. tho.

266. [wraxl]inge, wynttfe]res: MS. playinge, wynttres.

267. angarte [of] pryde: MS. angarte pryde; cp. 'for angarde; pryde', Gawayne, l. 681;

'thurgh angard of pride', Allit. Troy Book, 1, 9745.

268. to wasschen thyn handes, i.e. in which your hands may dip. It looks at first sight as if the poet were playing upon 'wele' = wealth, and 'welle' = well.

270. ry[c]hely: MS. ryhely. 275. For, i.e. against.

with [cleng]and[e] frostes: MS. gleterand; the alliteration of the line requires a word beginning with 'c'; cp. 'for be forst clenged', Gawayne, l. 1694.

276. Sythen dropeles drye in the dede monethe, i.e. after

(? and then) the dropless drought in the barren months.

277. thou wolle [te] to: MS. wolle to.

the tauerne by-fore p^e toune-hede: i.e. the tavern outside the upper end of the town; in 'the skirts o' the town'; the reference is to one of the taverns of ill fame, beyond the jurisdiction of the authorities, corresponding to the Elizabethan houses 'in the sub-urbs':—

'Dwell I but in the suburbs
Of your good pleasure? If it be no more,
Portia is Brutus' harlot, not his wife.'

Julius Cæsar, II. 1. 285-7.

The poet seems to have some particular locality, and possibly some special tavern, in his mind, and the reference is obviously to London, though the term 'town-head' belongs to the northern districts. 'Townsend' (preserved in the surname) would have been the lower end of the city, near Thames Street, where 'Townsend Lane' is still to be found; but I have failed to discover any trace of 'town-head' or 'town's head' in London. It would appear that 'town-head' was the upper extremity; 'town-end' the lower part, and 'town-gate', the main road or thoroughfare of a town or village; 'down town' signified towards the town-end, 'up town' towards the town-head. The poet is probably thinking of some locality near Shoreditch, or Finsbury.

NED. records 'town-head', but gives no quotation; EDD. refers the word to Northumberland, Lakeland, and North-West Derbyshire. It is found also in Cumberland and other Northern as well as Scottish districts. There is an interesting instance of the word in one of the

versions of the Scottish ballad of 'The Earl of Errol':-

'She was na in att the toun-end,

Nor yett sa far awa,
Till Earell he was att her back,
His goudy lokes to sha.
She was na in att the toun-head,
Nor just att the eand,
Till Earell he was att her back,

Her earent for to ken.'

Child's English and Scotch Ballads, V. 267.
The Skene MS. version, taken down from recitation, reads 'loan-head' for 'town-head'. Child glosses the word 'centre or principal part of the town'; but this misses the meaning.

281. Florence to schewe, i.e. 'for Florence to appear'; '&, lo.

Florence is there!' 'Florence' was evidently a popular name for a wanton woman. NED. quotes from Dictionary of Canting Crew, before 1700, 'Florence, a wench that is touz'd and ruffled.' EDD. gives 'florence, to go about untidily, slovenly dressed', and 'Amy Florence' (now nearly obsolete, and not known to correspondents) as a Northamptonshire term for 'any female loosely, untidily, and tawdrily dressed'. The present instance is very noteworthy. Evidently 'Amy' in the phrase quoted is F. amie.

In Piers Plowman we have 'Claryce of Cockeslane', and 'Purnel of Flaundres' (C. VII. 366-7) in the tavern-scene described in 'Confession'

Gulæ'.

282. 'Wee hee', and 'worthe vp': wee-hee, the neighing of a horse, cp. 'Ech man neizede to the wyf of his neizeor', Jeremiah v. 8 (Wycliffite version). In Piers Plowman, B. VII. 91, occurs a passage similar to the present. Professor Skeat's note on C. V. 20 gives references to other instances of the word, and its significance.

283. fore: probably added by the scribe.

286. And for-thi god laughte that he louede and leuede ath

Iche freke one felde ogh be ferdere be to wirche,

Teche thy men for to tille, etc.

I am inclined to suggest that the poet may have written 'and for-thi god lacches (or wile lacche) that he loues and leues hat oper'. Some scribe, not understanding the passage, or more probably erroneously referring it to the story of Cain and Abel, forgetting that Cain was a tiller of the ground, has changed the present tenses into the past. I take the reference to be to Matthew xxiv. 40 (or Luke xvii. 35)—'Tune duo erunt in agro: unus adsumetur et unus relinquetur'; udsumetur translates παραλαμβάνεται; Wycliffe, 'shal be taken to'; Tyndale, 'shalbe receaved'; Authorised Version, 'shall be taken'; Revised 'is taken'. So, too, the poet (if my theory is correct) used the present for the future.

'lacches' would be an excellent rendering of adsumetur, with the idea of 'taking to one's self', and happily connects itself etymologically with the Homeric $\lambda \dot{\alpha} \zeta o \mu a \iota$, used as $\lambda a \mu \beta \dot{\alpha} \nu \omega$, the variant roots of the two words having become blended in Greek (cp. Prellwitz,

Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Griechischen Sprache).

one felde, suggested by 'in agro'. In Matthew the Parable of the Talents exemplifies 'the Signs of the Coming', to which our author refers, and he applies the Parable by stating that 'each one ought to be readier at work in the field'; cp. Piers Plowman, A. VII. 218-33; B. V1. 233-48; C. IX. 238-59,—

'Ac he that was a wrecche and wolde nat trauayle, The lord, for hus lacchesse and hus luther sleuthe,

By-nom hym al that he hadde,' etc.

But it is to be noted that there is a special application to tillage— 'in agro' being taken literally, with an homiletic reference to Genesis iii. 19. Cp.

'Go to Genesis the Ieaunt engendrure of vs alle; In sudore and swynk thou schalt thi mete tilie';

(Piers Plowman, A. VII. 219.)

Waster, however, is not called upon to till; his duty is 'to teach his men to till', as becomes 'a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household', and not 'to eat and drink

with the drunken ' (Matthew xxiv. 44-51).

There was also, no doubt, a very practical application to the economic conditions of 1352. Increased tillage was the pressing problem of the time. The Statute of Labourers, in the previous year, had attempted to deal with the question of labour, disorganized by the ravages of the Black Death, social changes, and especially by war conditions. It is the problem of the present day. The Prime Minister, in a speech delivered to the Chairmen of County War Agricultural Committees on Dec. 21, 1917, made a stirring appeal to landowners—'Land is life to the nation now, land is victory to Great Britain now; therefore, the man who stands on his land and does not cultivate it now is guilty of treason. Deal relentlessly with men who do not make the best of the land, because they are robbing the people of food, and they are robbing the nation of victory.' (The Times, Dec. 22, 1917, p. 4.)

288. ty[n]en: MS. tymen; probably here used in the sense of 'to

repair the fences' rather than 'to enclose'. Cp.

'He's i' th' feilt wi' the men, tinin' hedges'

(EDD. sub tine).

289. Rayse vp, etc.; Waster's property was evidently in a dilapidated condition; he is urged by Winner to restore his rent-houses.

ryme vp thi 3erdes, i.e. clear up thy gardens, clear away the accumulated rubbish due to long neglect; 'vp' intensive, as in 'tidy up', 'clear up'; OE. ryman, to make roomy, to extend, to clear of obstructions; ME. rimen, rumen, roumen; cp. aroint = OE. gerym \(^{\overline{v}}\)m get out of the way! \(^{\overline{v}}DD\) gives 'to rim household' = to remove the furniture from one house to another, a Warwickshire phrase.

290-4. Owthere hafe as bou haste done, etc. In the first instance the poet is evidently recalling Matthew xxv. 30, 'And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness', but in specifying 'the worse that is to follow' he identifies Waster with Babylon, as one of those who have 'lived deliciously' with her, and he transfers to Waster the fate that was to befall the Scarlet Woman—'Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire' (Revelation xviii. 8, 9). This perhaps explains the words in 11. 291-92.—

'first be faylynge of fode, and than the fire aftir,

To brene the alle at a birre.'

(Cp. Vulgate, 'mors, et luctus, et fames, et igne comburetur.' Was 'to brene the alle at a birre' perhaps an intentional echo of 'igne comburetur'?)

'Death and mourning' are not mentioned. The Black Death of 1349 and the tribulation caused thereby were calamities of too recent

a date; they belonged to the immediate past, and their effects were obvious.

292. The more colde es to come, i. e. even greater cold than we have at present. This looks like an allusion to the bitter frost from December 1352 to March 1353. If this is so, the poet was writing during these months. This is about the time which other evidence tends to fix for the date of composition. The manner in which this last line in the Fit is added is very striking, and, although it is noteworthy that a famine followed from March to July, the allusion to 'the failing of food' may well be merely to 'fames' of Revelation. If so, Winner's words received striking confirmation. On the other hand, the prophecy may be after the event. 'This prophecy Merlin shall make; for I live before his time.' On the whole I conclude that the poet wrote during 'the terrible long, hard and cold Winter, which endured with extream Rigour from the 6 of December till the 12 of March' (Barnes, Life of Edward III, p. 468).

296-9. Cp. Matthew xix. 21: so, too, 11. 256-8.

300-1. Cp. P. P. Crede, Il. 113-22.

302. se[w]es: MS. sees; i.e. prosecutes at law. The scribe has either accidentally omitted 'w' or 'u', or understood it as meaning

'sees' with 'maken' in the next line as infinitive.

304. myndale: i.e. mind-ale, an ale-drinking or feast in memory of a person; the word is not elsewhere recorded; cp. bridal = bride-ale, i.e. bride-feast; 'there were leet-ales, scot-ales, church-ales, clerk-ales, bid-ales, and bride-ales' (Skeat). As to 'mynd', cp. 'mind-day', the day on which a person's death was commemorated; 'month's mind', or 'month mind', the service in memory of the deceased a month after the funeral.

310. Cp. 'As wel fastyngdaies as Frydaies and heye-feste euenes',

Piers Plowman, C. VII. 182.

311. his fere one the ferrere syde, i.e. Saturday; cp.

'Lechour seide "allas!", and to vr ladi criede
To maken him han merci for his misdede,
Bitwene god almihti and his pore soule,
With that he schulde the Seterday seuen 3er after
Drinken bote with the doke, and dynen bot ones;

ibid., A. V. 54-8.

The Saturday fast was kept in honour of the Virgin, whose votive mass

was said on Saturday.

314. And thies beryns one the bynches, with [biggins] one lofte: MS. howes; cp. l. 150. The scribe did not understand the text, and for some strange word beginning with 'b' wrote 'howes'. I suggest 'biggins' as the right reading—an excellent word for the 'coif', which resembled the 'biggin' or child's cap, or night-cap The earliest instance of this use in NED. is under the year 1639:

'Ha' made him barrister

And rais'd him to his satin cap and biggon.'

City Match, IV. vii;

and the earliest instance quoted in the sense of 'a child's cap' is from

Palsgrave, 1530; Shakespeare's 'he whose brow with homely biggen bound' (for night-cap), 2 Henry IV, IV.v. 27, is readily recalled. The word was derived from OF. beguin, a coif tied under the chin, worn by the béguines, certain lay sisterhoods founded in the Low Countries in the twelfth century by a priest called Lambert Bègue or le Bègue, i. e. the Stammerer. In The Romaunt of the Rose occur the following lines:

'And Dame Abstinence-Streyned Toke on a robe of kamelyne, And gan hir graithe as a Bygynne. A large coverchief of threde She wrapped all aboute hir heede.'

She wrapped all aboute hir heede.' 11. 7364-8. From all this it may be safely inferred that 'biggin' was used in English as early as the middle of the fourteenth century in the sense of 'coif', although no other early instance is recorded than the possible occurrence in the present passage.

317. itwiste: MS. (?) it wiste (for the form cp. itwix, betwyste); i.e. between them, in the midst of them; cp. Dr. Henry Bradley's

suggested emendation, in Athenœum, April 18, 1903.

Concerning Scharshull, vide Preface.

321-3. Perhaps a reference to the Rich Young Man of the Gospel.

321. es sothe: MS. es full sothe.

322. ranke wele, i. e. abundant wealth.

The more hauande bat he hathe, the more of hert feble, i. e. the more that he hath worth-having, the more is he feeble of heart; 'hauande'; cp. ONorw. havande, in the sense of 'worth-having' (Aasen's Norsk Ordbog). This use of the word is nowhere recorded in English, and is evidently due to Scandinavian influence; cp. OE. hæfen, property, riches; hæfen-lēas, poor.

The line is probably a paraphrase of 'Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also'; hence, the poet's 'bat sayde es full 3 ore'.

326. [thou weryed]: MS. 'this wrechide', evidently caught from two lines above; perhaps we should read 'this' for 'that'. 'Lo! thou cursed waster, this everywhere is known'—(introducing the statements that follow).

329. ow[es]: MS. owthe.

330. [thou]: MS. he. The scribe, having erroneously interpreted

and changed 1.326, alters the pronoun in this passage.

332-61. Waster's extravagant menu should be compared with Arthur's banquet to the ambassadors from Rome, Allit. Morte Arthure, ll. 176-215. Concerning ancient cookery, cp. Antiquitates Culinariæ, by Richard Warner, 1791; Liber Cure Cocorum, ed. Richard Morris, Philological Society, 1862; Two Fifteenth-Century Cookery Books, ed. Thomas Austin, E.E.T.S. 91, 1888.

The literary history of the menu which forms the basis of Waster's feast can be traced back as far as the treatise of Walter de Bibbesworth, ft. 1270; cp. Volume of Vocabularies, ed. Thomas Wright,

vol. i, p. 173, and Femina, ed. W. Aldis Wright, p. 81.

332. [bayes]: MS. plontes; cp.

'The boar's head in hand bear I, Bedeck'd with bays and rosemary

the traditional song sung at Queen's College, Oxford (Ancient English Christmas Carols, ed. Edith Rickert, Chatto and Windus, 1910, p. 259).

337. doke: portion, share; not elsewhere recorded in this sense. 338. nedles note: cp. 'Bot al wat; nedles note', Patience, 220.

340-1.

quarter[e]d swannes, Tartes of ten ynche; MS. quarterd; cp.

'Grett swannes fulle swythe in silueryne chargeoures, Tartes of Turky;

Morte Arthure, 185-6.

345. Martynmesse mete: cp. 'Martinmas beef', i. e. the meat of an ox salted at Martinmas.

348. [3]e: MS. he; cp. 1. 352.

349. Barnakes and buturs: cp. 'Bernakes and botures', Morte Arthure, 189.

352. [30we]: MS. hym. The MS. reading is evidently due to the

error of 'he' for '3e' in 1. 348.

353-60. The letters and words in brackets are purely conjectural the MS. has been torn away; cp. Textual Notes.

354. [Daryo]ls and dische-metis, pat ful dere coste: cp. 'With darielles endordide and daynteez ynewe';

Morte Arthure, 199.

355. [Mawme]ne: this conjectural reading is put forward, instead of 'marchpane' (originally suggested), for which the space in the MS. is too small, and against which other reasons may be adduced. Moreover, the poet is evidently playing on the word when he adds, '3our mawes to fill' (see Textual Notes).

In The Turnament of Totenham, c. 1450 (Early Popular Poetry of England, ed. W. C. Hazlitt, 1866, vol. iii), there is a burlesque of these lavish feasts, ll. 235-336, and among other items of the feast

described we have :-

'gryndulstones in gravy, And mylstones in mawmany.'

11. 262-3.

356. Cp.

'Ay two had disches twelue, Good ber, & bry3t wyn bobe;'

Gawayne, 1. 128.

at a merk: cp.

'pat pine to fynde pe place pe peple bi-forne For to sette pe sylueren, pat sere sewes halden, On clothe':

ibid., l. 123.

362. scathed: MS. schathed; the alliteration necessitates this change, though the form with 'sch' is not rare.

364. But one[s] I herd in a haule of a herdmans tonge: MS.

one; cp. 'me by-tyde ones', l. 31.

Cp. 'I herde on a halyday at a hyze masse;'

Patience, 1. 9.

'In halydayes at holicherche whan ich herde masse.'

Piers Plowman, B. xiii. 84.

The reference seems to be to some specific writer or speaker; the

'herdman' suggests, at first sight, Amos.

365. 'Better were meles many han a mery nyghte': evidently an Old English proverb, though the nearest form I have been able to find is 'Better are meals many than one too merry', which occurs in Heywood's Dialogue conteyning the number of the effectuall proverbes in the Englishe Tounge, etc. (1562).

Leaue this (quoth she) & learne liberalitee,
To stynt stryfe, growne by your prodigalitee.
Oft said the wise man, whom I erst did bery,
Better are meales many than one to mery.
Well, (quoth he) that is answered with this, wife,
Better is one monthes cheere, than a churles hole lyfe.'

Spenser Society's Reprint, p. 68.

366. forthe[r]: MS. forthe; cp. l. 216.

[FITT III]

369. [a lite] zeris: MS. fewe zeris, 'a lite' = a few, cp. 'a lite

grotes', Liber Cocorum, c. 1420 (NED).

370. Th[en] po puret: MS. Thurgh pe poure. The reading of the MS. makes it difficult to construe 1. 373, though 'thurgh' effectively links 11. 369-72.

372. [bat it]: MS. &.

373. for wanhope in orthe: i.e. for despair at plenty; 'erthe' = OE. ierb, crop, produce. Hence 'in erthe', far from being a mere unnecessary phrase, an unpoetical repetition of the last word of 1.371, is essential.

'Erthe' is a different word from the ordinary 'earth'. Its first sense is the act of earing or ploughing tilling; produce of arable land; and so 'crop.' It is used technically in books on husbandry:

cp.

'Nowe cicera the blake is sowe in season

On erthes tweyne or oon sowe hem as peson;'
Palladius, E.E.T.S. 52, 1873, p. 106, ll. 67-8.
The ON. aror, a plough, is used in Icelandic similarly in the sense of

produce. 373-4. *Cp.* 'Here's a farmer, that hanged himself on the expectation

of plenty; Macbeth, II. iii. 5.

'Each Muck-worme will be rich with lawlesse gaine,
Although he smother vp mowes of seuen yeares graine,
And hang'd himself when corne grows cheap again;'
Hall's Satires, Bk. IV, Sat. 6.

In the year 1354 corn was so abundant and cheap that the Commons addressed a petition on the subject, in so far as labour was affected thereby (*Rolls of Parliament*, ii. 261).

377. pedders in towns, i. e. villages, hamlets; cp.

'A poure Persoun of a town . . .

Wyd was his parisshe and houses fer a-sonder,'

Chaucer, Prol. 478, 491.

378-81. With these lines cp. Piers Plowman, B. VI. 282-312; Peres has no 'salt bacoun'; but as for 'the laboreres'

'May no peny-ale hem paye 'ne no pece of bakoun,

But if it be fresch flesch other fische · fryed other bake, And that chaude or plus chaud · for chillyng of her mawe.'

386. [fr]ete: MS. ete.

390. Who so wele schal wyn, a wastour moste he fynde': evidently a Middle English proverb, though I cannot find another instance; but in the German folk-tale, preserved by Ludwig Bechstein (Deutsches Märchenbuch, 1846), entitled 'Bruder Sparer und Bruder Verthuer', i.e. Brother Winner and brother Waster, I find 'Sparer muss einen Verthuer haben', i.e. 'a Winner must have a Waster', given specifically as an old German proverb.

395. [bat]: MS. &.

396. in a wale tyme = in quick time. This sense of the adjective is illustrated by:—

'pare suld my folk for defaute be famyscht for euire, And worthe in a wale quile to wricchis as 3our-selfe!'

Wars of Alexander, 4596-7. The same use of the phrase is also found in Wars of Alexander, ll. 2018.

2261, 4772.

It would seem that this word is not the same in origin as 'wale' = choice, fit. In the northern dialects, to wale = to be quick over anything; cp. EDD. sub Wale. But there is no indication in the modern dialects of the use of the word as an adjective. In E. Frisian, 'walen' = to turn round, and this word gives the root idea of the many words found in English and the other dialects; cp. Goth. walus, a staff; OE. walu, a weal; ON. völr, a round stick, valr, round. 'Wale', applied to time, may originally have meant 'quickly revolving', hence 'quick'.

The familiar epithet 'wale' often found with 'ithes', waves, should be referred to the present use, in the sense of 'moving'; cp. G. welle, wave. It is noteworthy that we find 'pe rough ythes,' evidently synonymous with 'pe wale ythes', is found in Allit. Troy Book, l. 11869.

If so, wale stremes, 460, = swift currents; cp. 1. 42.

399. MS. defective.

400. For to s[chadewe] your sones: MS. for to saue to your sones; the text is clearly corrupt, 'saue' being caught up from the next line.

405. Probably '[To] bryng'. brod[e]: letter covered by a blot.

407. sett & solde, i.e. let, or leased, and sold. The earliest quotation for 'set' in this sense in NED. is dated 1422 (cp. set, § 57); the fuller phrases appear to be 'to set in feu, in feu ferm, in lease, tack'.

408-14. 'Wasted all wilfully to please your wives.

They who formerly had lords in the land and ladies rich, (i.e. they who formerly were the servants of lords and ladies),

Now are they wantons of the new fashion, so daintily attired, With long trailing sleeves, reaching to the ground,

Bordered all around with ermine about;

Whom, I trow, it is as hard to handle in the dark, As an artless simple wench who never had worked silk.' 408. waste[d]: MS. wastes.

410. nysottes of be new gett: wantons of the new fashion; cp. 'a gay wenche of the newe jet,'

Poem on the times of Edward II, 1. 118 (Political Songs of England,

ed. Thomas Wright, Camden Society, 1839). nysottes: the only instance of the word in NED. is from Skelton's

Magnificence, 1526-'Where I spy a nysot gay, That wyll syt ydyll all the day.'

411. [si]de: MS. elde.

The satirist in Edward II's reign exclaimed— 'For pride hath sleve, the land is almusles.'

i. e.

Because pride hath sleeves, the land is without alms. Political Songs, ed. Thomas Wright, p. 255.

In Richard the Redeles, III. 152, we read—

'But if the slevis slide on the erthe,

Thei woll be wroth as the wynde and warie hem that it made:

And [but] aif it were elbowis adoun to the helis, Or passinge the knee: it was not acounted.'

Chaucer's Parson in his denunciation of Pride deals with 'superfluitee of clothinge' in men and women; Persones Tale, § 27.

412. Ourlede all vmbtourne: i.e. bordered all around; cp. 'euesed

al vmbe-torne', clipped all around, Gawayn, 184.

'al vmbtourne', an adverbial phrase; 'ep. vmbygon, vmbygone, ll. 118, 62; her [h]ere [h]eke al hyr vmbegon (i.e. her hair also all

about her), Perle, 210.

'vmbtourne' in its adverbial use has not been explained. We find in OE. ymbtyrnan, to surround, tyrnan, to turn, tyrngeat, a turnstile, turnian, to revolve; and it would seem that the present word shows the stem of this OE. word (ultimately derived from L. tornare), perhaps influenced by or coalescing with the OF. tourner. At the same time it is difficult to understand the formation 'vmbe-tourne'. i. e. turning about, going right around.

There evidently existed a parallel phrase found in Ormulum. 1. 17563, 'umbe-trin' = umbe-trind, around, where trind is an adjective, cp. OFris. trind, trund, Dan., Swed. trind, MLG. trint, trent, round, 'umme trint', Du. omtrent, around, about. (Cp. trend, trendle, trindle, trundle; and OE. trinde, round lump; OE. trendel, circle.) May not 'umbe-tourne' be under the influence of 'turn', of the Scandinavian 'umbe-trin' = a remodelling of 'umbe trin[d]', or perhaps 'umbe

trun[d]', by metathesis 'umbe-tirn', 'umbe-turn'?
413. pat as harde es, I hope: MS. pat es as harde as I hope.

414. Cp. 'And ze, loueli ladies, with (3) oure longe fyngres, That habbeth selk and sendel, souweth, whon tyme is, Chesybles for chapeleyns, and churches to honoure.' Piers Plowman, A. VII. 18-20.

The idea of the lines would lead one to expect 'werede' rather than 'wroghte'. 'Silk-work', embroidery, was one of the accomplishments of young ladies of position. Perhaps 'silly simple wenches' aped

their betters', and the text may be correct.

415. Bot who-so [lykes] luket on hirt: MS. But who-so lukes on hir lyre. The scribe has evidently made an attempt to make sense of a miswritten line, which is thus restored, with gain to syntax and rhythm, 'but, whoso liketh, look on her, our Lady of Heaven', etc.

420. hir weeldes wer pore: MS. wordes; cp. 11. 54, 223. In Lydgate's Life of Our Lady the following lines occur:-

Ye wemen all schuld take hede With yor perles and yor ryche stonis bryght, How that yor quene flowre of womonhed Of no devyse embrowdyrd hath her wede Ne forred with armyn nor with trysty gray Ne martryn sable I trow in gud fay . . . Lett be yowre pride and yowre affeccyon Of ryche aray,' etc.

(Visions of Tundale, together with Metrical Moralizations, Edinburgh,

1843, p. 114.)

421. of siche: of such-like.

422. To: MS. for to.

[e]schewes: MS. ofte schewes, a corruption of the original. helped perhaps by 'schewe' in the previous line. The scribe, having written 'schewes' for 'eschewes', attempted, it would seem, to give some sense by adding the word 'ofte'. Cp.

'Pouerte is the first poynte ' that Pryde moste hateth;' Piers Plowman, B. XIV. 279.

423. b[is], [werped]: MS. be, castes.

428. to fynde, i. e. to provide for, to equip.

435-8. The MS. reading of this passage is as follows: & ze negardes appon nyghte ze nappen so harde Routten at your raxillyng raysen your hurdes

3e beden wayte one be wedir, ben wery 3e be while put 3e nade hightilde vp 3our houses, & 3our hyne raysed. The whole passage is evidently corrupt, and the reading in the text is the editor's attempt at a restoration of the lines, which seem to be an echo of Ecclus. xxxi. 1-2: 'Watching for riches consumeth the flesh, and the care thereof driveth away sleep. Watching care will not let a man slumber, as a sore disease breaketh sleep.'

436. Cp. 'Rascled and remed and routte at the laste';

Piers Plowman, C. VIII. 7.

437. Beden ze wayte: MS. ze beden wayte; from time to time ye watch, etc. The scribe took 'beden' to be the verb, and transposed the words, not recognizing 'bedén', adv. anon, ever and anon.

438. [h]ade: MS. nade; the scribe, misunderstanding the whole passage, changed 'hade' into 'nade', and made nonsense. Winner, in view of the bad weather, regrets that he has improved his property and given liveries to his servants.

Winner had urged Waster to 'raise up his rent-houses', l. 289.

hightilde: cp. hight, to adorn; of doubtful origin, but perhaps connected with OE. hyht, hope, expectation, gladness. The present form, with the diminutive suffix, is found in Cleanness, 1290, and The Wars of Alexander, 1541, 4969, etc. The additional adverb 'vp' is evidently intensive. Its use is characteristic of the poet.

440, etc. *Cp*.

'And thou with wandrynge and woo schalte wake for thi gudes,
And be thou doluen and dede, thi dole schall be schorte,
And he that thou leste luffes schall layke him there-with,
And spend that thou haste longe sparede, the deuyll spede hymells!'

Parlement of the Thre Ages, 11. 257-60.

442. w[a]re, MS. were; those that thou wishest should hold it.

444. Cp. Matthew xxv. 41-6.

445. bou tast [no] tent one a tale: the scribe has, I think, omitted 'no'. The reference is evidently to the Parable of the Rich Man, Luke xii. 16-21. The parable further suggests a reference to Matt. vi. 24-34, in the lines that follow, 'I hold hym madde', etc., i.e. I hold him mad that worries painfully to win his competence.

446. mak[ande] to: MS. make for to; cp. Parlement of the thre Ages,

1. 278, text A. reads 'makande', B. 'make',—

'And aftir irkede me with this and ese was me leuere,
Als man in his medill elde his makande wolde haue.
Than I mukkede and marlede and made vp my howses,' etc.

Parlement of the Thre Ages, 11, 277-9.

447. hi[t], hi[t], hi[t]: MS. hir, hir, hir.

449-51. 'For whose may live longest chances to fetch Wood that he shall waste, to warm his heels, Further than his father did by fifteen miles.'

Waster argues in favour of a short and merry life; the longer you live, the more timber you will use up for fuel, and in your old age you will have to send a long way—fifteen miles further than your father did—for the wood to be wasted merely in getting yourself warm.

Possibly 'waste' has connotations with the technical use of 'waste' for unallowed appropriation of timber; cp. 'escrippe or waste', Lincoln Diocese Documents, ed. Andrew Clarke, E.E.T.S. Original Series, 149, p. 205, l. 17. Vide article 'Waste' in the Law Dictionaries.

454. [herte]: not in MS.

457. bro[b]e worde[s]: MS. brode worde; cp.

'pat oper burne watz abayst of his brope wordez.'

Cleanness, l. 149.

461. to be Pope of Rome, at Avignon.

461-5. This reference to the luxury of the cardinals and the papal court would apply to Clement VI, who died on December 6, 1352, but

hardly to his successor, Innocent VI (1352-62), who strongly opposed the methods in vogue for raising money.

468-73. MS. defective. 468. he, *i.e.* Waster.

471. [falles]: MS. happyns; the line is very doubtful.

[to strecche]; cp.

'in-wyth not a fote,
To streeh in be strete bou hat; no vygour.'

Perle, 970-1.

472. won[ne]: cp. wonnes, 1, 249.

473. & wyng[es per]-till: the bracketed letters are torn away. (?) 'and wings thereto', i. e. where wealth easily flies away; cp. 'Riches certainly make themselves wings, they fly away, as an eagle toward

heaven'; Proverbs xxiii. 5.

476. any ber[ande] pote[ner]: MS. any potet beryn. potet = poted = poted = potend = potener (the contraction for er being easily mistaken for d) = pautener, OF. pautonniere, a bag, purse; cp. potewer, in Boy and Mantle, l. 21, Percy Folio, = poteuer, cp. Sir Degree, 866, ibid. (where Auchinleck MS. reads 'aumener'). 'Any berande potener' = any one bearing a purse, cp. 'berebag', probably 'bag-bearer', opprobiously applied by Minot to the Scotch. The reference, if my emendation is correct, is to the 'gipsier', or purse suspended ostentatiously from the girdle, an encouragement not only to cutpurses, but also to idle Wasters in search of Gulls.

'potet beryn' represents an attempt to make sense of 'berande

potet, or poted'.

477. to pe tonne, i.e. to the tun, cask. It looks as if it were the name of some particular inn. 'The Tun' in Cornhill was the name of a prison, and as such is often referred to (see Letter Books of the City of London); cp. 'pe chepe', evidently = Chepe, i.e. Cheapside, l. 474; 'the crete', l. 479; 'pe Pultrie', l. 490.

479. to the crete: to the Crete, i.e. to the wine of Crete, a sweet wine often mentioned in the City Records of the period (see Letter Books, F, G, and references there given). At first sight the text suggests that 'the Crete' was an inn where this wine was specially sold.

480. Bred Strete: 'the cooks of Bread Street' are specially men-

tioned in the City Records (see Letter Book G, p. 332).

bikken [with] bi: MS. bikken bi.

487. pat fynd a peny: 'fynd' = fiend, cp. 1. 236. EDD. quotes 'fiend a penny', Smith's Poems, 1714; cp. 'the devil a penny they have left me, but a bare pension,' Marlowe's Faustus, sc. vi. 157 (Temple Ed.). The phrase 'pe deuel haf' (= the devil a bit), Patience, 1. 460, should be compared.

& put owte his eghe: i. e. and hoodwink him.

490. po Pultrie: interesting references to the Poultry, and to poulterers and poultry, occur in Letter Books F, G, H.

492. henne[s], serue[d]: MS. henne, serue.

494. albus: the common form in ME. is 'alp'; I can find no other instance of 'alb', though 'awbe', possibly the same word, occurs in

Gascoigne's Complaint of Philomene, 'The tatling Awbe doth please some fancie wel', l. 35. Various dialect forms, 'olp, ope, awf, alf, ulf, hoop, mawp, nope, pope', are given in EDD.; cp.

'In many places were nyghtyngales, Alpes, fynches, and wodewales.'

Romaunt of the Rose, 11. 657-8.

 $[\mathfrak{p}^e]$ o[sul]les: MS. pis oper foules,—evidently the scribe's substitution for something he did not understand: I conjecture some

such original as 'be oselles'.

egretes: an early instance of the word; the earliest example in NED. is dated 1411, from Rogers, Agric. & Prices, iii. 129/2, 'egrets, 4 at \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. It is evidently the AF. form of OF. egrette, aigrette;

cp. Liber Albus, p. 467.

496. I see no reason for changing 'wynnere' to 'wastoure', as has been suggested (Athenœum, April 18, 1903). 'Watch for me' means that Winner is to remain in London till the King's departure; he could come to Paris from Avignon.

if bu wilt wele chese: if thou wilt choose out wealth; or, perhaps, if thou wilt journey well, take a right course; cp. Chese

be forthe in-to be chepe', l. 474.

498. pe proude pale[y]s of Paris: MS. pales, i. e. the Louvre; cp. 'Of France was mekill wo, i-wis,

And in Paris pa high palays;'

Minot, vii. 165.
499. to do it in ded, (?) to put it into action, to carry it into effect; probably 'it' is a scribal addition, and the words may simply mean 'to do things really well'.

500. s[iluer]: the letters after the first are rubbed out.

503. pe kirke of Colayne per pe kynges ligges: a reference to the Shrine of the Three Kings in Cologne Cathedral. Probably the poet wrote 'per pe pre kynges ligges'; cp. 'The Three Kings of Cologne', an early English translation of Historia Trium Regum by John of Hildesheim, ed. by C. Horstmann (E.E.T.S. Original Series 85, 1886).

Edward III had the Three Kings in special reverence, and made offerings and prayed at the Shrine, notably in 1338, when he went to Coblenz to meet his brother-in-law the Emperor, Louis of Bavaria, who invested him 'Vicar-general of the Empire in all the Germanies and in all the Allmaines'. The poet seems to imply that on the present occasion he would visit the Cathedral on setting out, and would offer thanksgiving there on the success of his enterprise.

GLOSSARY

a, indef. art. 11; an, 374; ane, 36; OE. ān. aboute, around, 280, 412, 475; abowte, 249; OE. onbūtan. aftir, according to, 429; adv. afterwards, 17, 133; aftire, behind, 207; OE. æfter. agayne, against, 172; OE. ongegn. age, 120; OF. aäge. albus := ME. alpes, bullfinches, 494. all, adj. 162; al, 385; alle, adv. 60, 408; OE. eall. all-pofe, although, 420; OE. eall +ON. *boh; cp. bofe. als, as, 26, 32; al[s], 55; as, 4; OE. eallswā. amblande, ambling, 417; OF. ambler. amonges, among, 136; OE. ongemang + -es. an, ane, v. a. and, 1; if, 259; &, 211; OE. and. angarte, boasting, arrogance, 267; v. Note. anone, anon, 214; OE. on an. anober, another, 116; OE. an ōčer. any, 56; OE. ænig. appaire, inf. impair, 372; OF. ampeirer. appon, on, upon, in, 14, 24, 66, 67, 497; appone, 12; vpon, 70; OE. uppan. [a]rayed, pp. equipped, 438; AF. arayer. are, v. or. are, aren, v. be. Arestotle, 316.

as, v. als. aske[de], pt. 3 s. 213; OE. $\bar{a}scian$. assche, ash, 397; OE. æsc. asse, 417; OE. assa. at, 16; amid, 436; OE. æt. attyred, pp. equipped, adorned, 203, 410; attyrede, 270; OF. atirier. aughte, v. owethe. Austyn, St. Augustine of Hippo, 316. Austyns, Austin Friars, Augustinians, 186. a-waye, gone, 183, 283; OE. on aye, ever, 227; ay, 372; ON. ei. ayther, each, 202; aythere, 50, 459; OE. æghwæčer. bachelere, a young knight following the banner of another, 328; OF. bacheler.

armes, 193; OF. armes.

bacon, 379; bakone, 251; OF. bacon. baken, pp. baked, 335; OE. bacan. bakke, 114; OE. bæc. bakone, v. bacon. bale, adj. wicked, 292; n. pain, 357; OE. bealu. bal[1]e, 164; ON. böllr. banere, banner, 131, 143; company, 168; pl. baners, banners, 52; OF. banere. bankes, v. bonke. bare, v. bere. barkes, bark of trees, 39; ON. borkr, gen. s. barkar.

barme, bosom, 418; OE. bearm. barnakes, wild geese, 349; bernacles, 39; OF. bernaque (with diminutive ending). barne, child, 418; OE. bearn. barone, 328; OF. barun. batell, army, 105; OF. bataille. [bayes], 332; OF. baie. be, inf. 27, 201, 255; ben, 298; pr. 3 s. es, 5, 19; pl. are, 177; aren, 160; ere, 432; bene, 29, 235, 258; ben, 433; 3 s. subj. be, 147, 196, 478; pt. 1 s. was, 46; 3 s. 1; pl. were, 20; wer, 420; 3s. subj. were, 308, 343; pl. 98, 365; pp. bene, 3; OE. beon. be, v. by. bede-hede, bed's head, 239; OE. bedd, hēafod. beden[e], ever and anon, 437; (?) OE. bi-dene. beefe, 379; OF. boef. be-fore, in front, 78; by-fore, 207; in front of, 277; OE. beforan. begynnes, pr. 3 s. begins, 1 (heading); OE. beginnan. be-hynde, 78; by-hynde, 10; OE. behindan. belte, 96, 187; pl. beltys, 182; OE. belt. be-lyue, quickly, 46; ME. bi life. bemys, tie-beams, 251; OE. bēam. bende, heraldic 'bend', 149; OE. bend + OF. bende. benden, pr. 3 pl. bend, 251; OE. bendan. bent, field, 105, 163; OE. beonet. berde, beard, 91; OE. beard. bere, inf. bear, 30; pt. 3s. bare, 93; pp. borne, 307; OE. beran. bernacles, v. barnakes. bery-brown, brown as a berry, 91; OE. berie, brun. be[ryinge-day], burial day, 470; OE. byrgan + ing, dæg.

beryn, warrior, man, 101, 168; beryne, 278; pl. beryns, 214; OE. beorn. besantes (heraldic), roundels or, representing gold besants (so called because first struck at Byzantium, 61; ynglysse b., probably = nobles; OF. besan. beste, beast, 73; pl. bestes, 79; bestis, 385; OF. beste. be-syde, prep. beside, 36; adv. hard by, 138; besyde, in addition, 170; OE. be sīdan. be-tyde, pr. 3s. subj. happen, 204; pt. 3s. ind. by-tyde, 31; OE. be + tīdap. betyn, beaten, embossed, 61; OE. bēatan. bid, pr. 1 s. command, 197; 3 s. biddith, 101; biddes, asks for, 239; imp. s. bidd, command, 105; OE. biddan. bide, pr. 2 s. subj. remain, 470; OE. bīdan. biggede, pp. built, 1; ON. byggja. [biggins], 314; v. Note. bikken, imp. s. beckon, 480; OE. bīecnan, late OE. bēacnian. billed, 349; OE. bile, n. billes, 39; OE. bile. birdes, 348; byrddes, 493; OE. brid; O.Northumb. bird. birdes, ladies, 426; ? OE. byrde, birre, blow; at a b., at one blow, in an instant, 292; ON. byrr. blake, black, 143, 164; OE. blasande, shining, 342; OE. blase, ble, colour, 93, 96, 144; blee, 156, 175; OE. bleo. blerren, inf. blear, 278; ?cp. MHG. blêren, blerren, to weep; LG. blarr-oged, bleer-oged. blesenande, bright, shining, mag-

nificent, 168; cp. OE. blæse,

blysa, ON. blys, a torch.

blewe, blue, 93; OF. bleu. blode, blood, spirit, 15, 194; OE. blōd. blussche, appearance, 187; ?OE. blyscan, vb.; cp. OE. āblisian. blynnes, imp. pl. cease, 457; OE. blinnan. booled, pp. buckled, 182; buklede, 114; OF. boucle, n. [bodworde], message, 125; OE. bod + word. body, 114; OE. bodig. bokel[e]s, buckles, 158; OF. boucle. bolde, 105; OE. beald; OM. bald. bolle, bowl, cup, 278; pl. bolles, 214; OE. bolla. bone, 181; pl. bones, 111; OE. bān. bonke, bank, 33; pl. bankes, 41; ON. *banki, bakki. borde, board, table, 342; burde, 335; OE. bord. bore-hedis, boars' heads, 175; OE. bār, hēafod. bores hede, boar's head, 332. borne, v. bere. boste, n. boast, 15; AF. bost. boste, inf. boast, 241; AF. bost, n. bot, but, 18; but, 4; bott, only, 281; bot, 54; even, 357; except, 237; without, 7; unless, 485; bot if, 100; OE. būtan. bothe, 123; bothen, 212; ON. bāðir. botours, v. buturs. bott, v. bot.

bourne, stream, 33; OE. burna. bowells, 357; OF. bouel. bow[e]men, 194; OE. boga, mann. bown, pr. pl. betake themselves, 208; v. next word. bown, ready, prepared, 52, 110, 431; bownn, 348; ON. būinn. bowndes, bands, bonds, 252; ON. band.

boun, v. bown.

boyes, varlets, knaves, 15; cp. EFris. boi. brake, pt. 3s. broke, 121; pp. broken, 418; OE. brecan. brande, sword, 241; bronde, 239; pl. brandes, 431; OE. brand, brond. brase, brace, the portion of a suit of armour covering the arms, 158; pl. brases, 113; OF. brauden, pp. woven, 113; brouden, 144; OE. brogden, pp. of bregdan; cp. brayden. braunche, branch, 121; OF. branche. braundesche, inf. with reflex. pron., swagger, 241; pt. sg. [brawndeschet], brandished, 121; OF. brandiss-, lengthened stem of brandir. brayden, pt. pl. flung, 52; pp. brayde, unfurled, 163; OE. bregdan; cp. brauden. Bred Strete, Bread Street, Cheapside, 480; OE. brēad, stræt. bremly, noisily, 41; OE. brēme +-ly. brene, inf. burn, 292; ON. brenna; cp. brynneth. brerdes, borders, 164; OE. brerd. breste, 116; OE. breost. Bretayne, Britain, 1; OF. Bretaigne. brethe, fury, 457; ?ON. bræði. brighte, 50; bright, 426; bryghte, 33; OE. beorht. broche, spit, 348; OF. broche. brod, broad, 116; brod[e], 405; brode, 333; OE. brād. broghte, v. bryng. broken, v. brake. bronde, v. brande. broths, 333; OE. brothes, brob. brothir, 309; OE. brofor. bro[b]e, violent, 457; ON. brāðr. brouden. v. brauden.

brouderde, pp. embroidered, 91; broudirde, 96; cp. OF. brouder. broun, burnished, 113; brown, 158; OE. brūn. Bruyttus, Brutus, 1. brydells, 208; OE. bridel. bryghte, v. brighte. bryng, inf. 405; imp. s. 484; brynge, 480; pt. pl. broghte, 197; pp. 332; OE. bringan. brynneth, pr. 3s. impers. it burns, 357; OE. brinnan; cp. brene. bukkes, bucks, 405; OE. buc. buklede, v. bocled. buk-tayles, buck-tails, 333; OE. buc, tægl. bulles, papal bulls, 144; Lat. bulla. burde, v. borde. burgh, town, 470; OE. burh. busked, pp. accoutred, 110; ON. būask. but, v. bot. buturs, bitterns, 349; botours, 379; OF. butor. by, 4; bi, 33; be, 176, 307, 466; by, by means of, 83; OE. bī. by, inf. buy, 393, 425; OE. bycgan. by-fore, v. be-fore. by-hynde, v. be-hynde. bynche, bench, 87; pl. bynches, 314; OE. benc. byrddes, v. birdes. by-twene, prep. 41, 219; bytwen, 356; OE. bitweonum. by-twixe, between (heading), 1; OE. be-twvx. by-tyde, v. be-tyde.

caban, cabin, tent, pavilion, 59; cabane, 83; OF. cabane. cache, inf. take, gather, 274; ONF. cachier. calles, pr. pl. call, 242; ON. kalla. cane, pr. 1 s. can, 223; kan, 452; know, 176; 3 s. can, can, 26; kane, 30; pt. 1 s. couthe, 308; pl. 21; OE. cunnan.

capill, horse, nag, 240; ON. kapall. cardynalls, 462; OF. cardinal. care, n. 233; OE. cearu. Carmes, Carmelites, 176; OF. carme. carpe, inf. speak, 452; pt. 3s. kerpede, 218; ON. karpa. case, chance, 448; OF. cas. casten, pp. arranged, divided, 77; ON. kasta. [caudel]s, hot broths, 353; OF. chaudel. cayre, inf. go, 240, 468; kayren, 502; pr. pl. 210; ON. keyra. caytef, wretch, 425; cayteffe, 233; ONF. caitif. cely, simple, 414; OE. (ge)sælig. certys, truly, 221; OF. certes. chambre, room, 474; OF.chambre. charbiande, roasted, 336; (?) = charbinade, charbonade; OF. charbonade, a piece of meat grilled on the coals.

chechun, badge, escutcheon, 116; aphetic form of ONF. escuchon. chepe, market, 474; OE. cēap; cp. Cheapside.

chepe = schepe, sheep, 481; OE. scēap.

chere, disposition, frame of mind, 383; appon c., ?in appearance, 24; OF, chere.

chese, inf. choose, 496; c. be, imp.s. betake thyself, 474; OE. ceosan.

chewettes, dishes made of chopped meat, 336; (?) deriv. childe, 24; pl. children, 398; OE. cild.

choppede, pp. 336; ?cp. MDu. cappen.

chyn-wedys, beard, 24; OE. cin, wæde.

clade, pp. clad, 90; OE. clæšan, cp. clothes.

clene, bright, 81; adv. 112; completely, 486; OE. clene.

[cleng]and[e], congealing, 275; OE. *clengan.

clenly, entirely, exactly, 77; OE. clænlice.

clepen, pr. pl. call, 355; OE. cleopian.

clerke, 293; pl. clerkes, 315; OF. clerc.

cleuen, pp. cloven, 340; OE. cleofan.

clothe, cloth, 485; pl. clothes, clothes, 425; OE. clāb.

clothes, pr. 3s. 205; OE. clā*ian; cp. clade.

clyffe, 59; OE. clif.

cofers, chests, 298; OF. cofre.

Colde, 293: OE ceald: Angl

colde, 293; OE. ceald; Angl. cald.

co[me], inf. 468; pr. 3 s. comes, 338; pt. 1 s. come, 502; 3 s. 312, 402; pt. 3 s. subj. 55, 253; OE. cuman.

comforth, inf. comfort, 479; OF. conforter.

comly, adj. 203; comely, 199; comliche, 86; adv. 90; OE. cymlīc.

conynges, rabbits, 353; OF.

conin; AF. coning. coppe, cup, 448; OE. cuppe.

corde, 145; OF. corde.

corne, 233; pl. cornes, crops, 274; OE. corn.

cornere, 81; OF. cornier; AF. corner.

coste, pt. pl. 271; pp. 425; OF. coster.

coursers, chargers, 203; OF. corsier.

couthe. v. cane.

crafte, skill, art, 176; OE. cræft. craftyly, skilfully, 151; OE. cræftiglice.

cramynge, cramming, 255; OE. crammian + ing.

creste, 59; pl. (heraldic) crestys, 51; OF. creste.

crete, Cretan wine, 479.

Cristes, Christ's, 297; Cristis, 255; OE. Crist.

eroked, pp. curled, 151; ON. krökr, n.

crowned, pp. 86; AF. corouner. custadis, custards, 353; OF. croustade.

cuttede, castrated, 240; ?cp. Sw. dial. kåta, kuta.

daderande, trembling, 97; deriv. unknown; cp. dodder.

unknown; cp. dodder.
dadillyng, chattering, 44; cp.
diddering=chattering of teeth.

dale, a dealing out of money in charity, 303, 305; OE. dal.

dare, pr. 3s. 8; pt. 2s. durste, venturedst on, 303; OE. durran.

[daryo]ls, pasties, 354; OF. dariole.

daye, lifetime, 303; OE. dæg. dayntethes, dainties, 330; OF. daintiet.

ded, deed, 499; pl. dedis, 292; OE. dæd.

dede, death, 313; OE. deap; cp. Sw., Dan. dod.

dede, dead, 276; d. monethe, the unproductive months of the year; OE. dead.

dede-day, death-day, 441; OE. deap-dæg.

dedly, deadly, 313; OE. deadlīc.

dele, n. part, 4; OE. dæl.

dele, inf. deal, 103, 153, 345;
delyn, divide, 441; pr. pl. deal,
5; OE. dælan.

deme, inf. judge, 220; imp. s. 244, 453; pr. 3 s. d[em]eth, thinks fit, 201; OE. dēman.

depe, deep, 44; OE. deop. dere, expensive, 354, 494; OE. deore.

derne, darkness, 413; OE. derne. dethe, death, 196; OE. deap.

deuyll, devil, 441; the d. wounder, no wonder at all, 236; OE. deofol.

dide, v. do.

dighte, inf. ordain, appoint, 330; OE. dihtan.

dische-metis, dish-meats, pies, 354; OE. disc, mete.

disches, 342; OE. disc.

disturbe, inf. 129; distourbe, 318; OF. destourber.

do, inf. 499; pr. 3 s. dose, 305; dothe, 109; imp. s. doo, cause, 478; pl. dothe, 220; pt. 3s.

dide, did, 451; pp. done, 290; don, 488; OE. don.

doke, portion, 337; cp. docket, piece; Fris. dok, LG. dokke, bundle.

domesdaye, doomsday, 17; OE. domes dæg.

Domynyke, S. Dominic, founder of the Dominican Friars, 167.

doo, don, dose, dothe, v. do.
 doun, down, 13, 109; downn,
 235; OE. (of) dūne.

dowfehowses, dove-cots, 235; OE. dufe, hus.

drakes, 97; OE. *draca; cp. OHG. antrahho; Sw. (from LG.) and-drake.

draweth, pr. 3s. 17; OE. dragan. drede, inf. fear, 322; aphetic form of OE. ondrædan.

dredfull, 17; cp. drede.

Drightyns, the Lord's, 244; OE. dryhten.

droghte, drought, 312; OE. drügab.

dropeles, dropless, rainless, 276; OE. dropa + -less.

drownede, pp. 312; OE. druncnian.

dry, 478; drye, 235; OE. dryge, drye, drought, 276; OE. dryge, adj.

drynk, inf. 478; pp. dronken, 488; OE. drincan.

dub, inf. 499; pt. 1 s. dubbede, 103, aphetic form of OF. aduber.

duell, inf. dwell, 453; duelle, 458; pr. 3s. dwellys, pauses, 109; pl. duellen, abide, 140; imp.s. duell, 488; OE. dwellan. dukkes, 97; OE. duce.

dures, pr. 3s. lasts, 108; OF.

durer.

durste, v. dare. dwellys, v. duell. dyn, 44; OE. dyne.

dyne, inf. dine, 330; OF. disner,

dîner.

dynttis, blows, 103; OE. dynt.

eghe, put owte his e. i.e. deceive him, 487; pl. eghne, 45; OE. ēage.

egretes, herons, 494; OF. aigrette,

egrette.

eke, also, 15; OE. ēac.

eld, n. old age, 10; OE. eld(o). ells, else, 56; OE. elles.

ende, n. 262; region, 47; OE. ende.

endes, pr. 3 s. 217; OE. endian.

endityde, pp. indicted, 313; AF. enditer.

ensample, 421; OF. essample.

ere, v. be.

ermyn, 412; OF. ermine. erthe, 371; OE. eorðe.

[e]schewes, pr. 3s. shuns, avoids, 422; AF. escheuer, OF. eschiver, OHG. seiuhan, to shy at.

Estirlynges, Easterlings, natives of Eastern Germany, Hanse merchants, 141; cp. Du. oosterling.

estres, retreats, recesses, 403; OF. estre.

euen, Missomer e., the evening before Midsummer Day, 166; pl. euenes, eves, 310; OE. æfen.

ouer, ever, 23; OE. æfre.

fadir, father, 451; pl. fadirs, 273; OE. fæder. faire, adv. 226; fayre, 66, 82; adj. sup. faireste, 174; OE. fæger. falles, pr. 3 s. 378, 448; pl. fallyn, 210; pr. 3s. subj. falle, 198; pt. pl. ind. felle, 53; OE. feallan. false, 228; OF. fals. fare, imp. s. go, 207; OE. faran. fare, good cheer, 295; OE. fær. faste, adv. 217; OE. fæste. fatt, 481; OE. fætt. fawked, pp. seized (by the 'fawcons'), 98; ?cp. OF. fauque, sickle. fawkons, falcons, 92; fawcons, 98; OF. faucon. fayled, pt. 3 s. 155; faylede, 102; OF. faillir. faylynge, n. 291; OF. faillir+ -ing. fayne, glad, 402; OE. fægen. fayntnesse, 7; OF. faint +-ness. fayre, v. faire. fayth, allegiance, 329; OF. feid. feble, 323; OF. feble. feche, inf. 449; pr. pl. 300; imp. s. 281; OE. feccan.

fede, inf. feed, 254, 464; pr. pl. feden, 295; pp. fedde, 206; OE. fēdan.

feghtyn, v. fighte. felawes, companions, 329; late OE. fēolaga; ON. fēlagi.

felde, plain, field of battle, 123, 179; one f., on the land, 287; pl. feldes, 288; OE. feld.

fele, many, 35; OE. fela. felle, cruel, 228; OF. fel. felle, v. falles.

ferd, n. fear, 416; ? cp. MHG. fērde; OE. fær.

ferdede, pp. assembled in battle array, 138; OE. ferd, n.

ferdere, more forward, more eager, 287; OE. furčor; cp. OE. feorr; cp. forthe.

ferdes, gen. pl. of the armies, 123; OE. ferd.

ferdnes, fear, 98; cp. ferd. fere, companion, 311; OE. (ge)-

ferlyeste, most wonderful, 102: OE. færlīc.

ferre, adv. far, 416; comp. ferrere, 451; adj. 311; [o]n fere, afar, 7; OE. feorr.

ferse, fierce, 148; OF. fers. fesanttes, pheasants, 334; AF. fesant; OF. fesan.

festes, feasts, 295; OF. feste.

fete, v. fote.

fewles, fewlis, fewllys, v. fowle. fey, doomed to death, dead, 159,

245, 300; OE. fæge. fighte, inf. 245; pr. 3s. fightis, 154; pl. feghtyn, 160; OE. feohtan.

fighte, n. 148; OE. feohte. fill, inf. 355; imp. s. fille, 281; OE. fyllan; cp. full.

fire, 291; OE. fyr. fisches, 386; OE. fisc.

fitt, canto, 217; fit, 367; OE. fitt. flakerande, flapping, 92; cp. OE. flacor, adj.

fled, pt. 3 s. 416; OE. fleon. flesche, 336; OE. flæsc. flete, inf. float, swim, 386; OE.

flēotan. flode, flood, water, 386; OE. flod.

Florence, 281. floures, flowers, 35; flowres of Fraunce, fleurs-de-lis, 78; OF. flour, flor.

flye, inf. fly, 384; OE. fleogan. flyttynge (more commonly flytynge), debating, argument, 154; OE. flītan; cp. OE. flit.

fode, food, 291, 491; OE. foda. folde, ground, 174; OE. folde. folde, inf. entwine, 35; OE.

fealdan; OM. faldan. fole, fool, 154; OF. fol. foles, v. fowle.

folke, people, 123; OE. folc. folowe, inf. 207; pr. 3s. folowes, 327: pl. folowe, 273; foloen, 502; OE. folgian. fongen, pp. caught, 384; OE. for, conj. 5; prep. 185; against, 275; fore, for, 283; OE. for. forced, pp. made strong, 170; OF. forcer. forfadirs, forefathers, 402; ON. forfaðir. forgiffe, inf. 135; OE. forgiefan. forthe, adv. 281, 384; furthe, 245; comp. forthire, 216; forthe[r], 366; OE. forb; cp. ferdere. for-thi, therefore, 11, 197; because, 286; OE. for or. forthir, inf. advance, strengthen, 429, 464; OE. fyreran. forthire, v. forthe. foster, inf. feed, support, 464; pp. fosterde, 206; pt. pl. brought up, 273; OE. föstrian. fote, foot, 35, 375; pl. fete, 98; OE. fot. founden, v. fynde. foure, 77; OE. feower. fourme, form, nest of a hare, 14; OF. fourme, forme. fourmed, pp. 66; OF. fourmer. fourte, 163; OE. feor a. fowle, coll. pl. fowl, 346; pl. foles, 40; fewles, 96; fewlis, 384; fewlys, 91; fewllys, 44; OE. fugol. Fraunce, 78. St. Francis Fraunceys, Assisi, 170; gen. s. Franceys, 159. free, happy, noble, 434; fre, 272; OE. frēo. freke, man, 287; pl. frekes, 102; OE. freca, warrior. frenchipe, kinship, 7; cp. ON. frændi. frende, 402; advocate, 155; pl.

frendes, friends, 240; OE. freond. freres, friars, 300; freris, 179; OF. frere. fresche, bright, 66; vigorous, 160; OF. fresche, f. freschely, briskly, 217; OF. fresche + -ly. [fr]ete, inf. eat, 386; OE. fretan. fro, prep. from, 38, 161; conj. as soon as, 26, 200; ON. frā. frostes, 275; OE. frost. frumentes, pl. a dish made of wheat boiled in milk, 334; OF. frumentée. Frydaye, 311; OE. frigedæg. full, pr. 3s. subj. fill, 217, 367; OE. fullian, fyllan; cp. fill. full, adv. 37; ful, 354; OE. full. furthe, v. forthe. fyfte, fifth, 174; OE. fifta. fynd, fiend, devil, 487; OE. feond. fynde, inf. invent, 21; maintain, 428; find, 390; pp. founden, 155; OE. findan. fyne, 92; OF. fin. fynger, 480; OE. finger. fyve, 206; OE. fīf, fīfe. fyvetene, fifteen, 451; OE. fiftēne. gadir, pr. 1 s. gather, 227; gedir, 231; pp. gadird, 432; OE. gæderian. gale[g]s, galoches, 157; see Note. gan, pt. 3 pl. did, 35; aphetic form of OE. onginnan. gartare, 63; pl. garters of Inde. blue garters of the 'Order of the Garter', 62; OF. gartier. gate, highway, 359; ON. gata. gayly, 62; OF. gai + -ly. gedir, v. gadir. gerede, pp. adorned, 63; ON. gervi, n. gete, inf. get, 173; pr. 2s. getys, 440; pp. getyn, 269; ON. geta. gett, fashion, 410; OF. jet.

giff, v. gyf. giftes, 500; ON. gift. gilt, guilt, 135; OE. gylt. girde, pp. girt, 95; OE. gyrdan. girdills, 271; OE. gyrdel. glade, glad, 440; OE. glæd. glades, pr. 3s. is glad, 227; gladdes, makes glad, 391; OE. gladian. glene, pr. 1 s. glean, 231; OF. glener. go, v. goo. God, 173; OE. god. god, gode, v. gud. gold, 118; golde, 61; OE. gold. gome, man, 118, 359; OE. guma. goo, inf. go, 231, 406; imp. s. go,105; OE. gan. goullyng, howling, 359; ON. gaula. grace, 135; OF. grace. grant, inf. 399; graunte, 371; AF. graunter; OF. graanter, craanter. gray, 381; OE. græg. grene, green, 48; OE. grene. grete, great, 94, 122; adv. 224; OE. great. greues, pr. 3 s. grieves, 391; OF. grever. grewell, gruel, 381; OF. gruel. grounde, n. 173; OE. grund. grounden, pp. ground, i.e. consumed, 269; OE. grindan. grow, inf. 399; growe, 371; pr. 3s. growes, 397; OE. growan. gud, good, 383; gode, 440; god, 1 (heading); gude, 381; used as n. 271; pl. gudes, 265; gudis, 441; sup. beste, 110, 315; adv. wele, 28,161,496; comp. better, 247; bettir, 225; sup. beste, 30, 125; OE. god. gyf, inf. give, 421; giff, 500; pp. gyffen, 269; OE. giefan; ON.

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zalowe, yellow, 75; OE. geolu. 3ape, cunning, skilful, 75; sup. zapeste, 119; OE. gēap. zarked, pp. made, 75; OE. gear cian. ze, ye, 134; dat. acc. zow, 135; 30we, 228; yow, 31; OE. gē. 300, yea, 246; OE. gea. zeme, inf. look after, protect, 114, 152, 419; pr. pl. 3emes, 376; OE. gēman. zerdes, enclosures, 289; geard. zere, year, 374; gen. s. zeris, 387; pl. 119; OE. zear. 3it, yet, 454; 3itt, 174; OE. git. zondere, adj. yonder, 105; adv. 143; cp. OE. geond, adv. 30nge, young, 398; sup. 30ngeste, 119; OE. geong. 3ore, long ago, 321; OE. geara. zour, your, 355; OE. eower. 30W, 30We, v. 30. had, haden, v. hafe. hafe, inf. have, 256, 444; pr. 1s. 136; 2s. haste, 248, 261; hase, 250; 3 s. has, 158; hase, 145; hathe, 3, 323; hath, 297; pl. hafe, 271; pr. 2 s. subj. haue, 269; 3 s. 68; hafe, 485; imp. s. 290; pt. pl. had, 404, 409; [h]ade, 438; haden, 272; OE. habban ; *cp.* nade. halfe, 387; OE. healf. halpeny, 387; OE. healf-penig; cp. peny. hande, 121; honde, 87; appone h., at hand, 12; pl. handes, 211; OE. hand, hond. handil, inf. 413; OE. handlian. hanged, v. honge. happede, pp. wrapped up, hidden, 298; ? cp. LG. happen,

Fris. happe, to clutch.

454; OE. heard.

harde, adj. 51, 374; adv. 12, 435,

hare, 404; pl. hares, 14; OE. hara.

harme, evil, 68; OE. hearm. harmes, pr. 3s. it harms, 454; OE. hearmian. has, hase, v. hafe. haste, v. hafe. hasteletez, haslets, 492; OF. hastelet, meat roasted on a spit (OF. haste). hate, pr. 1s. 455; OE. hatian. hat[e]full, hateful, 73; cp. hate. hates, pl. angry feelings, 219; OE. hete; cp. hatian, vb.; ON. hatr. hath, hathe, v. hafe. hathell, man, 68; OE. ægele. hatt, hatten, v. hete. hatte, hat, 72; pl. hattes, 51; OE. hæt. haule, hall, 364; OE. heall. hauande, worth having, 323; ON. hafandi. haue, v. hafe. hawberkes, coats of mail, 50; OF. hauberc; OHG. halsberg. hawthorne, 36; OE. hagaborn. he, 10; dat. acc. hym, 69, 101. he, v. hye. hede, head, 36, 147; pl. hedes, 51; hedis, 150; OE. heafod; cp. bede-hede, bore-hedis. hedir, hither, 197; hedire, 162; OE. hider; ON. heðra. hee, interj. 282; cp. F. hé. heghe, v. hye. heghwalles, woodpeckers, 38; ?onomatopæic; ?cp. wodwales. held, v. holden. helle, 260; OE. hel. helme, helmet, 72; pl. helmys, 51; OE. helm. helpe, n. 361; OE. help. helpe, inf. 154; pr. 3s. helpis, 222; OE. helpan. heltre, halter, 418; OE. hælftre. helys, heels, 450; OE. hela. hen, 482; hene, 347; henne, 387; pl. henne[s], 492; OE. henn.

hend, gracious one, 419; OE. (ge)hende. hengeth, pr. 3s. hangs, 184; hynges, 251; pp. hynged, 145; ON. hengja; cp. honge. henne, v. hen. henppe, hemp, 145; OE. henep. henttis, pr. 3s. takes, 211; 3s. subj. hent, 447; OE. hentan. herd, herde, v. here. herdmans, herdsman's, 364; OE. heord, mann. here, army, 50, 58, 196; OE. here. here, inf. hear, 9, 220, 359; pr. 2s. heris, 319; pt. 1s. herd, 364; 3s. herde, 23; OE. hieran; OAngl. hēran. here, adv. 19; OE. her; cp. heres. heres, ? gentles, 212; OE. herra; possibly a scribal error for 'here'. heris, v. here, inf. herons, 492; OF. hairon. hert, 7; [herte], 454; pl. hertis, 20; OE. heorte. herthe-stones, 14; OE. heorb, herueste, corn crop, 274; OE. hærfest. heselis, hazels, 38; ON. hesli. hete, inf. promise, 279; pr. 3s. hetys, bids, 211; 1s. hatt, am called, 222; pl. hatten, 218; OE. hātan, hātte. hethe, heath, field, 196; OE. hæþ. hethyng, scorn, dishonour, translating 'honi' in the motto of the 'Garter'), 68; ON. hæðing. heuen, heaven, 244; gen. s. 361; OE. heofon. hewen, pp. hewn, 196; OE. hēawan. hidde, pp. 298; OE. hydan. hightilde, pp. put in order, settled, 438; prob. = eghtilde, ME. ahtlian; cp. ON. ætla, its

form being due to histlien, to

adorn.

hill, mound, 36; OE. hyll. hillede, pt. 3 s. covered, 76; ON. hylja. hipped, pt. 3 pl. hopped, 38; OE. *hyppan; *cp*. MHG. hüpfen.

hir, pron. poss. her, 418; OE.

hiere.

hir, v. scho. hire, their, 14; hir, 16; OE. hiera.

his, 9; OE. his. hodirde, pp. huddled, covered up,

298; cp. LG. hudern.

holden, inf. 10; pr. 1s. holde, 154; hold, 446; 3 s. subj. 447; pt. 3s. held, 419; OE. healdan; OAngl. haldan.

holte, wood, 50; holt, wooded hill, 70; OE. holt, a wood; ON.

holt, a wooded hill. holy, 147; OE. hālig.

home, 161, 467; OE. ham.

honde, v. hande.

honge, inf. hang, 374; pp. hanged, 260; OE. hangian, hongian; cp. hengeth.

hope, inf. expect, 374; pr. 1s. 12, 147; imp. s. 290; OE. hopian. hore, grey-haired, 10; OE. hār. horse, 467; pl. ho[r]ses, 237;

OE. hors.

hotte, 444, 482; hote, 219, 351; OE. hāt.

house, 212; howse, 347; pl. houses, 438; OE. hūs.

houes, pr. 3 s. remains, 105, 143; pl. 123; deriv. unknown; ? cp. OE. hof, pt. s.

how, 233; OE. hū.

howes, lawyers' caps, 150; OE. hūfe.

howndes, 237; OE. hund.

howse, v. house. hungere, n. 237; OE. hunger.

hungry, 482; OE. hungrig. hurcle, inf. crouch, 14; cp. MLG. hurken.

hurd[i]es, 'hurdies', buttocks, 436; deriv, unknown; not re-

corded in ME.; earliest instance in NED. is Lyndesay's Satyre,

hy, v. hyes.

hye, high, 246; heghe, 237; one h., on high, 40; of he, 64; adv. hye, $37\overline{2}$; heghe, 358; OE. hēah.

hyes, pr. 3s. hastens, 453; hyeghte, 12; 2s. subj. hy, 467; OE. hīgian.

hym, v. he.

hym - seluen, 28; OE. him selfum.

hyne, servants, retainers, 212, 438; OE. pl. hīwan, gen. hīna. hynged, hynges, v. hengeth. hyrne, corner, 238; OE. hyrne.

I, 12; [I], 227; dat. acc. me, 31, 47; OE. ic.

iche (with a), each, 63, 81, 249; [iche], 359; OE. ælc.

ichone, each one, 62, 93; icheon, 6; OE. ælc + an.

if, 131; although, 391; OE. gif; cp. bot.

in, prep. 3; into, 53; adv. 281; OE. in.

inde, blue, 62; OF. inde. in-to, 261; OE. in tō.

in-with, adv. within, 117; OE. in + wib.

iren, iron, 185; yren, 111; OE.

[irous], fierce, 79; AF. irous.

it, 1, 12; OE. hit. itwyste, adv. betwixt, 317; OE. in + (be)twyx + -t.

jangle, inf. chatter, 26; pt. 3s. janglede, 40; OF. jangler.

japes, jests, merry tales, 26; OF. japer, to bark, with sense of OF. gaber, to mock.

jarmede, pt. 3 pl. = charmed, sang, 40; OE. cirman; cp. jarme, EDD.

jay, 40; jaye, 26; OF. jay. Joseph, 419.

joynede, pp. fastened, closed, 115; OF. joign-, stem of joindre. jupown, tunic, 115; OF. jupon. juste, well-fitting, 115; OF. juste.

kan, kane, v. cane.

katour, caterer, buyer, 491; aphetic form of ANorm. acatour.

kayren, v. cayre.

kaysser, emperor, 327; ON. keisari.

kembid, pp. combed, 151; OE. cemban.

ken, pr. 3 pl. know, 462; imp. s. teach, direct, 479, 491; OE.

cennan. kene, keen, 237, 275; adv. 74;

OE. cene.

keps, inf. care for, protect, 462;

pr. 3 s. subj. 69, 124; late OE. cēpan.

kerpede, v. carpe.

kiddes, 340; ON. kið; Sw., Dan. kid.

kirke, church, 147, 503; OE. circe; ON. kirkja.

kirtill, tunic, 90; OE. cyrtel.

knave, servant, 485; OE. cnafa. knawen, *inf.* know, find out, 491; *pr.* 1 s. knowe, 468; kn[o]we, 187; *pl.* knowe, 205; knowes, 490; *pt.* 1 s. knewe, 83; *pp.* knawen, 29; knawenn, 326; knowen, 315; OE. cnāwan.

knees, 210; OE. cnēo.

knoke, blow, 485; late OE. cnocian, vb.

knoppe, nob, 81; cp. OE. cnæp, ON. knappr, Dan. knop, Sw. knopp.

knowe, knowen, v. knawen. knyghte, 103; pl. knyghtis, 203, 502; OE. cniht.

kydde, v. kythe.

kynde, nature; in the k., naturally, 117; OE. (ge)cynde.

kynde, natural, fitting, 274; OE. (ge)cynde.

kyng, 69; gen. pl. kynges, 3; OE. cyning.

kyngdome, 132; OE. cyningdom. kystes, chests, 255; ON. kista.

kyth, country, 124; kythe, something made known, rule, 134; OE. cypp, knowledge; country.

kythe, inf. declare, 104; imp. pl. 218; pp. kydde, 315; [kydde], renowned, 132; OE. cÿŏan.

lache, inf. take, 406; pr. 2s. subj. [lache], 469; pt. 3s. laughte, 286; OE. læqcan.

ladde, man of low birth, 388; pl. laddes on fote, footmen, 375; deriv. unknown.

lady, 177; pl. ladyes, 16; OE. hlæfdige.

lande, v. launde.

lanterne, 306; OF. lanterne. laped, pt. 3s. wrapped, covered,

111; pp. lapped, 350; cp. OE. lappa, a fold of a garment.

larkes, 350; OE. laferce; cp. Sw. larka, Dan. lerke.

lasteth, pr. 3s. 8; OE. læstan. late, adv. 306; comp. lattere; neuer be 1., nevertheless, 29; adj. sup. laste, 29; last[e], 399; OE. late.

late, inf. let, 406; pr. 3 s. lattys, 231; imp. s. late, 256, 263, 320; let, 255; pp. lett of, esteemed, 27: OE. lætan.

laughte, v. lache.

launde, lawn, 54; lande, 48, 405; OF. launde.

lawe, hill, 49; OE. hlaw.

lawe, low, 111, 139; one-lowe, below, 80; ON. lagr.

lawes, laws, 152; ON. *lagu, log; late OE. lagu.

laye, inf. 284; pt. 1s. layde, 36 OE. lecgan.

laye, v. lygge.

lebarde, leopard, (heraldic) lion drawn full-faced, the crest of Edward III, 74; pl. leberdes, 80; OF. lebard.

lede, n. leaden seal, 146; OE.

lēad.

lede, man, 108, 466; pl. ledis,
88; ledys, 29; l[e]des, 54, 223;
lede, nation, people, 369, 469;
OE. lēod, m. man; lēode, pl. people; lēod, f. nation.

lede, inf. lead, 16, 128; pr. 2 s. ledis, 270; 3 s. 148; ledith,

171; OE. lædan.

ledyng, 223; OE. lædan + ing. leefe, willing, 465; OE. leof. lefe, n. leave, 469; OE. leaf. legges, 111; ON. leggr.

legyance, allegiance, 501; OF.

legeance.

lelely, loyally, 430; OF. leel +-ly.
leman, mistress, wife, 428; OE.
leof+mann.

lengare, lengeste, v. longe. lenge, inf. dwell, 469; OE. lengan.

lengthe, 49; OE. lengtu. lere, inf. teach, 223; OE. lāran.

lesse, lest, 98; 1. [pat], 395; OE. $\forall \bar{y} \ l\bar{x}s \ \forall e.$

let, lett, v. late.

lethire, leather, 184; OE. leter. lettres, 66, 466; OF. lettre.

leue, inf. leave, 422; pt. 3s. leuede, 286; OE. læfan.

leue, imp. s. believe, 259; pp. leuede, 27; OE. gelīefan; OAngl. lēfan.

ley, untilled, 234; ? OE. *læge;

cp. læg-hrycg. life, v. lyfe, lyve.

liggen, ligges, v. lygge. lighte, swift, 74; OE. lēoht. lighte, bright, 306; OE. lēoht.

lightten, inf. cheer, 406; pr. pl. lighten, dismount, 209; OE.

līhtan.

liste, pr. impers. it pleases, 378; OE. lystan.

[lite], few, 369; OE. lyt.

littill-whattes, pl. trifles, little, 225; early ME. litles (gen. s.), hwat.

lofte, appon 1., one 1., on high, 72, 80; ON. loft; late OE. loft.

loken, v. lowked.

lokes, pr. 3s. looks, 456; lukes, 324; imp. s. loke, 466, 475; luke, 485; pr. p. lokande, 74; OE. lōcian.

lokkes, 71; OE. loc.

lomes, tools, 234; OE. (ge)lõma. lond, land, 459; londe, 133, 388; in 1. (expletive), 16; pl. londes, 234; OE. land, lond.

longe, adj. 74; adv. 243; comp. longer, 488; lengare, 259; sup. lengeste, 449; OE. lang, long.

loo, interj. 124; OE. lā.

lorde, 69; pl. lordes, 20; lordis, 375; OE. hlāford.

Lorreyne, 139.

losse, inf. lose, 133; OE. losian. loue, n. love, 244; lufe, 255; OE. lufu.

loue, inf. love, 430; pr. 1s. lufe, 225; 2s. loueste, 328; 3s. loueth, 88; pl. louen, 177; lufen, 501; pt. 2s. louediste, 304; 3s. louede, 286; pl. loued, 20; pp. 459; louede, 27; OE. luffan.

loueliche, lovely, 48; sup. louelyeste, 88; adv. louely, lovingly, 456; OE. luflic.

lowked, pt. pl. shut, 45; pp. loken, enclosed, 49; OE. lūcan.

lufe, lufen, v. loue. luke, lukes, v. lokes.

Lumbardye, 139. lyes, v. lygge.

lyfe, n. 133; life, 108; lyue, 385; OE. līf.

lyfe, v. lyve.

lygge, inf. lie, 463; pr. 3s. lyes, is fitting, 428; pl. liggen, lie, 234; ligges, 503; pt. 1s. laye, 45; 3 s. 49; OE. licgan.

lykes, pr. 3s. is pleasing to, 279, 352, 495; lyketh, 125; OE.

līcian.

lympe, inf. become, 369; pr. 3s. lympis, it befalls, 284; lympes, comes, 449; OE. limpan.

lyngwhittes, linnets, 350; OE. līnetwīge.

lyue, v. lyfe.

lyve, inf. 225; life, 243; lyfe, 375, 449; pr. 2s. subj. 259; OE. libban; OAngl. lifian.

machen, inf. match, 172; OE. (ge)mæcca, n.

madde, mad, 446; OE. (ge)-

mæd(e)d.

mak[ande], comfort, competence,

446, cp. ON. makindi.

make, inf. 373, 431; pr. 3 pl. maken, 303; pt. 2s. madiste, 264; OE. macian.

makers, 21; OE. macian + -er. man, 28; pl. men, 193; gen. mens, 337; OE. mann.

mantill, 90; OF. mantel; ON. mottull.

many, 4; OE. manig.

marchandes, v. merchandes.

mare, more, 305; sup. moste, 166; adv. comp. more, 28; sup. moste, 345; OE. māra.

Martynmesse, the feast of St. Martin, Nov. 11; M. mete. meat salted at Martinmas, 345; Martin + OE. mæsse.

mater, matter, 264; pl. matirs. subjects for poetry, 21; OF. matere.

mawes, stomachs, 355; OE.

maga.

[mawme]ne, a rich dish, perhaps so called from an ingredient of Malmsey wine, 355.

mawngery, feast, 304; OF. mangerie.

may, pr. 3s. 154; pt. 1s. myghte,

43; OE. magan.

ma[z]e, the madness of midsummer, 166; cp. OE. \bar{a} masod, pp. medewe, meadow, 34; OE. mæd; oblique case, mædwe.

meles, meals, 365; OE. mæl.

melleste, pr. 2s. speakest, 264; OE. mælan.

mend, inf. 383; AF. mender; OF. amender.

merchandes, gen. s. merchant's, 190; pl. marchandes, 377; OF. marchand; cp. merke.

merke, mark, boundary, place, 356; pl.merchandes merke[s], merchants' signs, 190; OE. mearc; OAngl. merc.

meruelle, marvellous, 344; OF.

merveil.

mery, drunken, riotous, 365; OE. myrige.

mese, course, 344; pl. mese. dishes, 356; OF. mes.

mete, meat, 335, 345, 383; OE.

mete, inf. meet, 52; OE. metan. Missomer euen, the evening before Midsummer Day, 166; OE. midsumor, æfen.

molde, earth, 172; OE. molde. monethe, months, 276; OE.

monab. more, v. mare.

morow, the next day, 478; OE. morgen.

morsell, 383; OF. morsel.

moste, pr. 3 s. 283; OE. moste, pret. of mot.

moste, v. mare.

mournes, pr. 3s. laments, cries (as in despair), 446; OE. murnan. my, 35; myn, 32, 36; OE. min; cp. one.

myddis, middle, 95: cp. OE. to

middes.

myghte, v. may.
myle, 49; pl. 451; OE. mīl, f.
myn, v. my.
myndale, commemoration feast,
304; OE. (ge)mynd + dāl.
myrthe, 304; pl. myrthes, entertainments, 21; OE. myrgb.
my-selfe, 99; my-seluen, 368;
OE. mē self.
myster, need, 361; OF. mestier.

nappe, inf. nap. 43; pr. pl. nappen, 435; OE. hnappian.
ne, not, 10; nor, 9; n[e], 127; OE. ne.
nedles, unnecessary, 338; adv. nedeles, 401; OE. ned+-less. negardes, niggards, 435; deriv. unknown; cp. Norw. nigla, vb. neghe, inf. approach, 19; pr. pl. subj. 106; pr. p. neghande, 43; OE. neah, adv.

neghe, adv. nigh, 17, 19; comp. nerre, 106; OE. nēah. nekke, 76; OE. hnecca.

nerre, v. neghe.

neuer, never, 4; OE. næfre. new, 410; OE. neowe.

newely, soon, 19; OE. neowlice.

no, 8; no noper = non oper, 12, 178; adv. none, 127; OE.

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oke, oak, 397; OE. āc.

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oughte, anything, 186; OE. owiht.

oure, our, 69; OE. ūre.

ourlede, pp. bordered, 412; OF. orler.

ouer, over, 460; OE. ofer.

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plente, abundance, 370; plesynge, 296; OF. plaisir. AF. plouers, plovers, 493; plover; OF. plovier. plunket, light blue (greyish blue woollen cloth), 65; OF. plunkié. poles, pools, 235; OE. pol. polischede, pp. 112; OF. poliss-, lengthened stem of polir. pompe, 422; OF. pompe. роре, 169; ОЕ. pāpa. pote[ner], purse, 476; cp. OF. pautonniere; (see Note). poure, poor, 393; poré, 256; OF. poore, poure. pouerte, poverty, 422; pouert, 382; OF. poverte; Lat. nom. powere, armed force, 318; OF. poyntes, dots, 65; ends, 183; prayed, pt. 3 pl. 55; OF. preier. prechours, preaching friars, Dominicans or Black Friars, 169; prelates, 376; OF. prélat. prestes, priests, 376; OE. preost. pride, pomp, 417; pryde, 15; late OE. pryte; cp. ON. pryči; OF. prūt, prūd, adj. prikkede, pt. 1 s., spurred, rode, 318; OE. prician. pris, price, worth, 372, 377; OF. priste, keen, urgent, 169; OF. proude, 498; prowde, 377; prode, 433; late OE. prūd; ON. prūðr; OF. prūd. pryke, pr. 1s. pin, secure, 232; prynce, 55; OF. prince.

pryne, pr. 1 s. pin together, 232; OE. prēon, n.

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put, imp. s. 487; OE. putian.

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quarter[e]s (heraldic) 77; OF. quarter.

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rane, pt. 3 s. ran, 41; OE. rinnan. ranke, excessive, 322; OE. ranc. rathere, comp. sooner, 322; OE. hra%or.

raton[e]s, rats, 254; OF. raton.

raughten, v. rechen. rawnsom, ransom, 363; OF.

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r[axillen], stretch (in sleep), 436; OE. raxan + -le + -ing.

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raysen, pr. pl. 436; imp. s. rayse, 289; ON. reisa.

rechen, pr. pl. give, 363; pt. pl. raughten, reached, 42; OE. ræcan.

rede, red, 60, 380; OE. read. rede, inf. govern, 57; pp. redde, read, 23; OE. rædan.

redy, ready, 278; OE. (ge)-ræde+-y.

refreyte, refrain, burden of a song, 1 (heading); OF. refrait. reghte, adv. just, 165; OE. rehte.

reghte, adv. just, 165; OE. rehte. rekken, inf. reckon, 192; OE. (ge)recenian.

reme, inf. weep, 258; OE. hrēman.

renke, man, 23; OE. rinc.

rent-howses, houses yielding rent, 289; OF. rente; OE. hūs.

repaste, 363; OF. repast.

rere, imp. s. rear, build, 474; pp. rerede, raised, 59; OE. ræran.

reuere, river-bank, hawkingground, 100; OF. rivere, reviere.

rewlyn, inf. rule, 57; OF. reuler. rewme, realm, 128; OF. reaume. rewthe, pity, 258; OE. hrēow +-th.

riche, 191; comp. richere, 322; adv. riche, 63; OE. rīca.

ridde, inf. part combatants, settle a broil, 57; ON. ryjða.

rigge, back, 340; OE. hrycg. ristyth, pr. 3s. lies, 200; OE. restan.

rode, rood, cross, 343; OE. rod. rode, v. ryde.

rofe, roof, 60, 251; OE. hrōf. romance, 23; OF. romans.

Rome, 461.

roste, n. roast meat, 339; OF. rost.

rote, inf. rot, 254; OE. rotian. roughe, 42; coarse, 380; OE. rūh.

roungen, pt. pl. made a ringing noise, 39; OE. hringan.

r[outting], snoring, 436; OE. hrūtan.

rownde, adv. 183; OF. rund. rowte, troop, 128, 202; OF. route.

ruste, inf. 254; OE. rust, n. ruyde, violent, noisy, 42; OF. ruide.

ryalle, royal, rich, 339; ryall, regal, 128; OF. rial.

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rye, 380; OE. ryge.

ryfe, abundance, 258; ON. rīfr; late OE. ryfe. ryme, imp. s. open up, 289; OE.

ryman.

rynges, rings, 343; OE. hring. ryse, inf. 211; OE. rīsan.

ry[t]he, right, prerogative, 134; OE. riht.

sable, (heraldic) black, 157; OF. sable.

sadde, strong, unyielding, 193; sade, massive, heavy, 146; OE. sæd.

sadills, saddles, 394; OE. sadol. sadly, seriously, 18; heavily, 215;

OE. sæd + -ly.

safe, adj. 427; prep. save, 238,
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vouche.

said, v. say.

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sall, v. schal.

Salomon, Solomon, 11.

samen, together, 360; OE. somen; ON. saman.

sandisman, messenger, 204; gen. of OE. sand + mann.

saue, pr. pl. save, 401; pt. 2 s. saued, 444; OF. sauver.

saue, v. safe.

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310; OF. saint.

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sc(e)afan + ing. schawe, wood, thicket, 403; pl.

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schent, pp. disgraced, 317; OE. scendan.

schetys, sheets, 463; OE. scēte. schewe, inf. 403, 421; imp. s. schew, 481; OE. scēawian.

schiltrons, troops, 53; OE. scild-truma.

scho, she, 416; dat. acc. hir, 415; OE. sēo.

schold, scholde, scholdeste, v. schal.

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nian. schorte, short, 1 (heading); OE.

sc(e)ort. schynethe, pr. 3s. 185; OE. scīnan.

scorned, pp. 362; aphetic form of OF. escorner.

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than, v. then.

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thayre, v. thaire.

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the, v. thou.

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ther-by, beside, 335; OE. &ærbī. there, 3; where, 123, 312; ther, 35; **þer,** 432, 503; there, 124; OE. 8ær.

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threpe[d], pt. pl. chid, argued, 37; ÖE. þrēapian.

throly, keenly, 37; ON. þráliga. throstills, throstles, 37; OE. pros-

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to, 9; till, 245, 470; too, 224, 372; OE. tō.

to-fore, before (me), 434; OE. toforan.

to-gedir, together, 182; to-gedire, 25; OE. togædere.

to-gedirs, together, 106; OE. togædere + -s.

tolde, v. tell.

tonge, speech, 67; tong, 364; OE. tunge.

tonne, tun, cask, 477; tounnes, 189; OE. tunne.

toune-hede, town-head, upper end of the town, 277.

tounen, pr. pl. sound, blow, 358; OF. ton, n.

townn, town, 489; pl. towns, 377; OE. tūn.

tresone, treason, 2; OF. traïson. tretys, treatise, 1 (heading); OF. tretis.

trompers, trumpeters, 358; OF. trompe + -er. trotte, n. 122; OF. trot. trotte, inf. 489; OF. trotter. trouthe, troth, 307; OE. treowb. Troye, 2. trynes, pr. 3 s. goes, 122; cp. Sw. tuly, red, 82; OF. tieulé, tilecoloured. tuttynge, pr. p. projecting, 82; OE. *tūtian; cp. OE. tytan. twa, v. two. twayne, two, 158; OE. twegen. twelue, twelve men, a jury, 313; [twelue], 356; OE. twelf, ${f t}$ welfe. twenty, 206; OE. twentig. two, 78; twa, 356; OE. twa. tyde, time, 165; OE. tid. tyll, v. till. tyme, 396; pl. tymes, 3; OE. ty[n]en, inf. fence, hedge in, 288; OE. tynan.

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vmbestounde, at times, 100; OE. ymbe stunde.

vmbtourne, adv. round about, 412; cp. OE. ymbtyrnan.

vmbygon, pp. surrounded, 118; vmby-gone, 62; OE. ymbgān.

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wakede, pp. watched, 248; OE. wacian.

wakynge, holding 'wakes', 266; OE. wacian+-ing.

wale, choice, excellent, famous, 34; cp. ON. val, n., Goth. walis, adj.

wale, quick, moving, 460; in a w. tyme, 396; see Note.

walke, inf. 257; pp. walked, 136; OE. wealcan.

walles, walls, 12; OE. weall.

walt, v. weldys.

waltered, pp. rolled, tossed about, 248; cp. Sw. vältra, MLG. walteren, OE. *wealtan (pp. gewälten).

wandrynge, pr. p. 32; OE. wandrian.

wanhope, despair, 309, 373; OE. wan + hopa; cp. MDu. wanhope. wanne, v. wyn.

w[a]re, subj. pr. pl. keep, guard, 442; cp. MDu. waren, ON. vara. warmen, inf. 450; OE. wear

mian.

warre, aware, 85; OE. wær. wasschen, inf. wash, 268; OE. wascan.

waste, n. 253, 473; OF. wast. waste, inf. 450; pr. 2 s. wastis, 495; wastes, 439; 3 s. 230; pp. waste(d), 408; OF. waster.

wastoure, waster, 242; wastour, 392; OF. waster + -our.

wate, v. wete.

watir, 44; OE. weter.

wawes, waves, 13; cp. MLG. waga. waxen, inf. become, 13; waxe, 373; OE. weaxan.

waye, 104; OE. weg.

waytten, inf. search for, 257; pr. pl. wayte, wait, 437; imp. s. watch, 475, 496; pt. 1 s. waytted, 85; 3s. looked round, 213; OF. waiter.

we, 5; dat. acc. vs, 205; OE. wē. webbe, hangings, 64; OE. webb. wedde, inf. 16; OE. weddian.

weddis, pledges, 284; OE. wedd. wedir, weather, 437; OE. weder. wedis, garments, 426; w[e]des, 420; OE. wæde.

wedowe, widow, 280; OE. wi-

duwe, weoduwe.

wee, interj. 282; OE. weg. weghethe, pr. 3 s. weighs, 162; OE. wegan.

welcome, adj. 212; OE. wilcuma, + ON. velkominn.

weldys, pr. 3 s. wields, 236; pt. 3s. walt, 420; OE. (ge)weldan. wele, wealth, 236, 322, 390, 495; OE. wela.

wele, v. gud.

wellande, boiling, surging, 262, 351; ON. vella.

wenche, girl, 280; OE. wencel. wende, pr. 1 s. go, 497; 3 s. wiendes, 226; imp. s. wende, 104; pr. pl. subj. wend, 198; pt. 1 s. went, 32; pl. wentten, 161; pp. went, turned about, 248; OE. wendan. wene, pr. 1 s. think, 186; OE. wenan.

wepyn, inf. 331; OE. wepan.

wer, were, v. be, werre.

werke, n. work, 30, 216; OE. weorc.

werlde, world, 8, 47; worlde, 262; OE. weorold.

werped, pt. s. east up, 423; pp. thrown up, 64; werpede, thrown, filled, 250; OE. weorpan.

werre, war, 497; were, 140; OF.

werre; OHG. werra.

werse, adj. worse, 290; OE. wirsa, wersa.

wery, pr. pl. curse, 437; pr. 3s. subj. 285; pp. weryed, 242; OE. werian.

weste, 32; OE. west-.

westren, western, 8; OE. westerne.

Westwale, Westphalia, 140.
wete, inf. know, 216; wiete, 84;
pr. 1 s. wote, 161; 3 s. wiete,
200; imp. s. wate, 389; pt.
1 s. wiste, 47; 3 s. 120; OE.
witan.

whalles, whale's, 181; w. bone, walrus tusk; OE. hwæl.

whatt, 192; whatte, 279; whate, 47; what, lo! 119; OE. hwet.

when, 9; OE. hwænne.

whete, wheat, 380; OE. hwæte.

whi, why, 219; OE. hwy.

while, n. time, 27, 437, 447; OE. hwīl; cp. whylome.

while, conj. 8; OE. hwīl, n. while, till, 110; while, 154;

OE. hwīl + -es. white (heraldic), argent, 144; whitte, 156; OE. hwīt.

white-herede, white-haired, 150; OE. hwit, hær+-ed.

who, 30; OE. hwā.

who-so, whoever, 18; OE. swā hwā.

MANNERE AND MASINGRE

word walks woodwaits wood whylome, formerly, 20; OR, hwirecking St. CY weeks of CY. lum, dat. pl.; ep. while. was a same to saw Million in the wiendes, v. wende. wiete, r. wete. we have ween very or hearly. withe a write W. S. . S. S. wightly, swiftly, 104; cp. CN wordwise, saire, 71; OE. wash-1:20 10 10 10 WILLIAM. wikked, wicked, 200: wikkede. wolle, wollest, wolls, " will 242; op. OE. wie-, pp. stem of Mo. 8. MOG. 184 5.4. 13. M. wican, to vield. ESTATE TO A CONTINUES wil, r. will. in the wind of the wilde, 18: wild, 885; Ch. wilde. manifest manife wilfully, 408: Off. wills + fully. silve silve in the second will, n. will, wilfulness, 16; M. Ch. 43, 43, 13, M. M. 13 wyl[]e, 5; pl. willes, 104; OE. Willia. W. C. J. C. J. S. W. will, pr. 1 s. 472: 2 s. 468: welles william willis 277: 3 s. will, 135: wil, 399: words i wards si ki asinow w. wil. 360: or. 2s woldeste, 14 . . . 375; woldest, 442; pr. 3 s. subj. worlde, v. werlde. wolde, Me: OE. willan. mounts, and be become the tis wilnes, pr. 3 s. wishes, 216: OE ing worther age of the wilnian. worder 300 Sees werether with the way a w. wirelite. I work 30 187 to 3 c wroghte, made, 25, 414; pp. TE come up. 202: OE. wearden. worked, 117: dressed, 71: OE. werestrate is . Of western WALLSTI. worthiliche noble 34: wisse, by show, direct. 205; gr. Messages. Sa wrsses 226: Oh. wissian. wiste, r. wete. 15 , with, 5: by. 2. 313: towards. Marie MARIE 471; withe, with, 278; OE, wib. William I. Winding I'll Wi with-inn, 157; with-in, 857; OK. Mongial pe of Annie THE WAR SEE SEE SEED OF THE SE wiginingn. with-owt, 346; with-owtten, W. 18 20 885. 8 25. 185. W. 18. 24; OE. wideran. But I . : .. witnesse, 30; O.E. witnes. WITE SELECTION SELECTION OF THE SELECTIO witnesse, pr. pl. 190. M. ACC - 60. witt, wisdom, craft, 5, 25: CE. massys in such the si Will. ser 353 C. Managen witterly, certainly, 39: wittirly, Will in pass at it will in the 200: ON. vitrliga. m. 1 . .. wod, mad, 373; wode, 465; OE. WILLIAM WILLIAM STATES W. 18 Milled 118 Milled 18 woodookkes werdoreks \$51: OE. Mile 18 16 11 11 Making. DELIES SEC SE MUNICE William Chin. milesper to the contract of william . Worlde, wood, 34: world, 336; woodd, timber, 450: OE. wudu.

16 (3 Am) 3 W.

GLOSSARY

wrothe, angry, 201; OE. wrāb. wrothly, angrily, 423; wrothely, 324; OE. wrāblīce.

wryeth, pr. 3 s. turns aside, perverts, harms, 6; OE. wrigian. wy, man, 8, 120, 201; pl. wyes,

136; OE. wiga. wyde, wide, 250; adv. 136; one

w., 213; OE. wid.

wydwhare, far and wide, 257; wyde-whare, 326; OE. wide gelwær.

wyfe, 280; pl. wifes, 395; OE. wif. wy[1i], wily, 6; OE. wil +-y.

wyl[1]e, v. will.

wyn, inf. win, 390; wynn, 179; pr. 1 s. 230; pl. wyn, 442; pt. 3 s. wanne, 162; OE. winnan.

wyndowe, 475; ON. vindauga. wyne, wine, 189, 213; OE. wīn. wynges, pl. (heraldic) feathers, 92, 117; wyng[es], wings, 473; ON. vængr. wynner, 392; wynnere, 222; OE. winnan+-er. wynnynge, n. 161; OE. winnan

+-ing,

wyntter, winter, 275; gen. s. wyntt[e]res,266; pl. wyntere, 206; wyntter, 299; OE. winter, pl. wintru.

wyre, 118; OE. wīr. wyse, manner, 75; OE. wīse. wyse, wise, 11; OE. wīs. wyses, v. wisse.

ylike, all alike, 48; OE. gelīce. ymbryne dayes, Ember Days, 310; OE. ymbren-dæg. ynche, pl. inches, 341; OE. ynce. ynewe, enough, 84; OE. genōh. Ynglonde, England, 79. Ynglysse, English, 61. yow, v. 3e.

yren, v. iren. Yrlonde, Ireland, 141.







SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS SAINT ERKENWALD

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

AT THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

BY FREDERICK HALL

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FROM BRIT. MUS. HARL. 2250: ST. ERKENWALD, II. 200-224

SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS

EDITED BY SIR ISRAEL GOLLANCZ, LITT.D., F.B.A.,

PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON;
HONORARY DIRECTOR OF THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY

IV

ST. ERKENWALD

(BISHOP OF LONDON 675-693)

An Alliterative Poem, written about 1386, narrating a Miracle wrought by the Bishop in St. Paul's Cathedral



HUMPHREY MILFORD: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

LONDON: AMEN CORNER, E.C.

1922

FERKENWALDE, CHRISTI LAMPAS AUREA,
TUA SANCTA PRECE NOSTRA DELE FACINORA.
QUATENUS TE COLLODANTES STELLATA
GRATULARI TECUM POSCIMUS IN PALACIA,
UBI NOVA DOMINO REBOANTES CANTICA
CONSONA VOCE JUBILEMUS ALLELUJA.

From Sequence for the Office of St. Erkenwald.

(4)

¹ See Sparrow Simpson's Documents Illustrating the History of St. Paul's Cathedral, Camden Society, 1880.

PREFACE

The Manuscript. St. Erkenwald is preserved in one manuscript, Brit. Mus. Harl. 2250, ff. 72 b-75 a. This paper manuscript, which belongs to the last quarter of the fifteenth century, is a miscellany, mainly of religious poetry, including a portion of the South English Legendary. A defective version of the Speculum Christiani of John Watton, in the manuscript, ends with the date 1477 as the year when the scribe copied the piece. The present poem is headed 'De Erkenwaldo', though the head-lines vary, giving either 'De sancto Erkenwald' or 'De sancto Erkenwaldo episcopo'. Our poem is in the same hand as the main part of the manuscript, the contents of which, whatever their origin, are in the Northern dialect. Some late glosses, of little interest, indicate that some one in the late sixteenth or seventeenth century attempted to read the present poem.

Certain names found in the manuscript are of interest. 'Ser Thomas boker has Thys boke', f. 8, is a claim to ownership, in a legal hand of the sixteenth century, which is further attested by a slightly later hand, 'syr Thomas bowker mine emys', i.e. Sir Thomas Bowker my uncle's [book], f. 71. 'Eme' is suggestively northern. I have not been able to trace Sir Thomas Bowker as knight, and it seems quite

¹ For the contents of the MS. see Catalogue of the Harleian MSS., British Museum; C. Horstmann's Altenglische Legenden, 1875, p. xxxviii; Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the MSS. Dept., British Museum, vol. ii, pp. 690, 738; Carleton Brown's Register of Middle English Religious Verse, vol. i, p. 314 (see also MS. Add. 38666).

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possible that the addition was used by him for marking his clerical position as parson or chaplain. Other names are Thomas Masse (? Mosse), f. 64 b, and what looks like Neltho Norton, f. 75 b. Some jottings are of interest, as for example against the words 'How longe had he per layne', l. 95, we find 'we redyn in a boke' followed by a word or two illegible, and a reference in one of the margins of f. 75 b to 'Ryght reuerrynd Sodor', before which last word is a mark resembling a Y.

But transcending in interest all these annotations is a marginal entry running along the length of the page, looking like an attempt on the part of some one to write out a legal formula, the words being as follows: 'Nouerint vniuersi per presentes nos Eesebyt (? = Elsebyt) bothe of dunnam (wrongly contracted) in the comytye (= county) of Chester in the comythe', followed out of line by what looks like 'edmund'. Now Dr. W. L. Ward, in his Catalogue, suggested that this entry, with the name of Elsebyt Bothe of Dunham Massey, might have reference to Elizabeth, daughter of George Booth, and wife of Richard Sutton. This would give us about 1566 as date for the entry. But Elizabeth was a common name in the great Booth family, and there was an earlier Elizabeth Booth. This matter, however, cannot be determined. For me, the point of striking value is that the book, in some way or other, was connected with a member of the famous Lancashire and Cheshire family of Booth, who were settled at Dunham Massey, and from whom came the great bishop and statesman, Laurence Booth, and his half-brothers, William, Archbishop of York, and John, Bishop of Exeter. Laurence Booth was one of the outstanding figures of his age, a Cambridge man, Master of his College, Pembroke Hall, from 1450 to the date of his death in 1480, Chancellor of the University, Chancellor to Queen Margaret, Keeper of the

Privy Seal, Bishop of Durham, Archbishop of York, identified for some six or seven years with St. Paul's Cathedral, as prebendary in 1449, and after various promotions, as Dean in His brothers also figure on the roll of the prebendaries. It is not, perhaps, allowing one's fancy too much liberty to imagine that the preservation of St. Erkenwald may be due to this West Midland prelate, statesman, and man of law, who as Dean of St. Paul's must have known the poem, and as a West Midland man would have been specially interested in its form and language. Treasured among his books, the poem may well have been copied into this collection of religious pieces prepared for him towards the end of his life. The book remained in his family, and some time or other some one, evidently intimate with his kinswoman, Elizabeth Booth of Dunham Massey, practised his hand in legal formulae, little deeming of the inference deducible, or at all events hazarded, from the evidence of the crude script. In the light of what I shall later attempt to prove, namely, that the poem, specifically a London poem, was written in London by a West Country man, this association of the manuscript with one of the greatest western families, whose most distinguished representative was for a time the custodian of St. Erkenwald's shrine, deserves more than a passing notice.

St. Erkenwald was printed in 1881 by Dr. Horstmann in Altenglische Legenden, Neue Folge (Heilbronn), with some fifty brief foot-notes to the text, a short summary of the poem, and some nine lines of introduction. So far, the poem has not been edited, and although it has been the subject of much general speculation, its textual problems, its interpretation, and the question of its metrical arrangement have remained unsolved, to say nothing of the important relation of the poem to fourteenth-century alliterative poetry, more especially in its relation to contemporary London.

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The present edition is based on a fresh transcript of the manuscript. Apart from interpretations and readings, and from emendations indicated by square brackets or obeli, it differs from the previous text in its quatrain arrangement. As far as the expansion of contractions is concerned, the curl in the manuscript after final -n is regarded by me as being merely ornamental, or as originally indicating that the letter was -n and not -u. Accordingly, the former expansion into -ne has been rejected throughout. In the Textual and General Notes will be found all the deviations from the manuscript.

Summary of the Poem. After the coming of St. Augustine, when Erkenwald was Bishop of London, there befell a miracle in St. Paul's Cathedral, which had formerly been a heathen temple. During the rebuilding of the minster, or rather that part of it which was called 'New Work', in the crypt below was found a noble tomb of gray marble, richly ornamented, with vaulted canopy, and inscribed about with bright letters of gold, that could not be interpreted in spite of the efforts of all the clerks in the cathedral close. news of the wonder spread throughout the town. Many hundreds rushed thither—burgesses, beadles, guildsmen. Apprentices struck work and hied to St. Paul's, and in a short spell it seemed as if the whole world had assembled there. The Mayor and his officers, by assent of the sacristan, took charge of the place. They bade that the lid should be taken off the tomb; and lo, the inside was all richly painted with gold. Therein lay a body, royally attired, with gown hemmed with bright gold and precious pearls, with girdle also of gold. Over the robe was a furred mantle. On the head was a coif, and set above it was a crown; the hands held a noble sceptre.

¹ See Prefaces to Cleanness and Patience in Select Early English Poems, ed. Sir I. Gollancz.

So fresh and untouched were both body and garb, it seemed that the burial must have been but of yesterday. Yet no one could find any record thereof in book or in tale.

Bishop Erkenwald was visiting an abbey in Essex, when news reached him of this excitement in town. He sent messages entreating the people to keep quiet, and as soon as possible journeyed thither himself. When he reached St. Paul's, many hastened to tell him of the marvel. He entered his palace, commanded silence, went alone into a chamber and closed the door. All night he prayed that it might be vouchsafed him to understand the mystery, and he was conscious that the Holy Ghost had granted him his boon. When 'matins' had been sung, the minster doors were opened, and the Bishop in full pontificals, attended by his clergy, began the Mass of the Holy Spirit, amid the music of the choir. It was a noble congregation that was present. When the service was ended, the procession passed from the altar. As the bishop came into the body of the church, some of the great lords present joined him, and, vested as he was, he went towards the tomb. The crypt was unlocked, and it was difficult to control the great crowd that pressed after him. In front of the tomb the bishop took his stand, barons beside him; and there, too, was the mayor with the city magnates, the mace-bearers in front. The dean told what had befallen, and with his finger indicated the finding of that marvel. In their necrology there was no mention of such a one. They had searched the cathedral library for seven whole days, but of this king they could not find any record.1 Save by some miracle, he could not have lain there so long as so entirely to pass out of memory. With gentle rebuke the bishop more hopefully urged that what seemed marvellous

¹ There is an earlier interesting reference to the library of St. Paul's in the thirteenth-century Miracles of the Virgin in French, where in the ix

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to men was easy to the Lord. When the creature's powers are all at a loss, it behoves him to seek help from the Creator.

Turning then to the tomb, he bade the corse, in Christ's name, to tell who it was and why it lay there, how long it had thus rested, what was its faith, whether it was 'joined to joy, or judged to pain'. As he spoke, the bishop sighed. Thereupon the body moved slightly, and with a dreary voice it told how, through the potency of the Name, it could not but speak and declare the whole truth. He was, alas, one of the unhappiest of mortals, he was neither king nor kaiser nor knight, he was a man of the law that formerly obtained in the land. He was a judge appointed for important causes in that city under a pagan prince, and he himself was of like pagan faith. He had been a 'justice in eyre' in New Troy in the reign of King Belin. The multitude stood hushed as these words were uttered; many of them wept. Then the bishop asked why it was, as he had not been king, that he wore the crown; and why he bore the sceptre, seeing he had no land or vassals, nor power over life and limb. Whereupon the body spake again. Crown and sceptre were placed on him, but not by his will. For forty years he had been chief judge-Justiciar-in London under a noble duke, and had endured much in his endeavour to keep the people to the right. For no gain on earth did he swerve from conscience: neither riches nor rank, neither menace nor mischief nor pity, influenced his judgements. 'Though it had been my father's murderer, I harboured no bias; nor would I have favoured my father, though hanging were his due.'

Prologue it is stated that the author did not invent the miracles, but found them in a book in the 'almarie', i.e. library, of St. Paul's.

'Jo lai de saint pol del almarie.

De saint pol de la noble iglise.

Ki en lundres est bien assise.'

(Ward, Romances, vol. ii, p. 709.)

When he died, all Troy mourned, because of his great justice, and they buried him in that golden tomb. They clad him in that robe as most gracious of judges, in that mantle as meekest and manliest on bench. The fur set thereon was for his perfect faith; the girdle betokened his noble governance of Troy. In honour of his fair fame exceeding all, they crowned him appraised king of noble justices, and because he ever looked to what was just, they placed the sceptre within his hand.

The bishop then asked him how, though his body might thus have been kept embalmed, the colour and substance of his garb had remained so fresh. It had not been embalmed, answered the corse; nor had human craft kept its robes so spotless. The All-wise King, Who loves justice above all things, had vouchsafed that it might remain uncorrupted so long.

'What sayest thou of thy soul?' then asked the bishop. 'How is thy soul bestead, if thou wroughtest so well? He that rewards each man as he has acted aright, could ill deny thee some branch of His grace.' The body moved its head and groaned, and then cried out, 'How for Thy mercy could I ever hope? Was I not a pagan, who never knew Thee nor Thy laws, alas the day! I was not of those Thou didst rescue from Limbo; I remained there behind, exiled from the Heavenly Feast, where they are refreshed who hungered after righteousness.' All wept as they heard the moaning of the corse; the bishop himself could not speak for sobbing. He paused; then turning to the body where it lay, his tears falling the while, spake thus: 'God grant thee but to live till I get water and may baptize thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost!' And as he uttered the words, he let fall a tear on the face of the corse. 'Praised be our Saviour,' the corse then exclaimed, 'praised

be Thou, great God, and Thy gracious Mother; blessed be the blissful hour she bore Thee; and blessed be thou, bishop, the cure of my care, who hast relieved the heavy gloom wherein my soul has dwelt. The words that thou spakest, and the tears of thine eyes, have become my baptism; my soul even now is seated at the Table. With the words and the water there flashed a gleam into the abyss, and amid richest mirth my spirit passed into that Upper Room, where sup the faithful. A marshal met it there with sovereign grace, and with reverence assigned to it a place for evermore. My high God praise I, and also thee, bishop—blessed be thou!' The voice then ceased, the body fell to dust.

'All the beauty of the body was black as the mould, As rotten as the rottock that rises in dust.

For as soon as the soul was seised in bliss, Corrupt was the cumbrance that covered the bones; For life everlasting, that lessen shall never, Makes void each vain glory availing so little.

Then was there laud to our Lord, with uplifted hands, Much mourning and mirth commingled together; They passed forth in procession, the people all followed, And all the bells in London-town burst forth at once.'

The Prologue. A Prologue precedes the poem, telling that in the time of St. Erkenwald, Bishop of London, one part of St. Paul's, formerly a heathen temple, had been pulled down for rebuilding; and the poet briefly explains how the pagan Saxons had driven out the Britons, and had perverted the people of London, who had previously been Christians. This realm had remained heathen for many years, until St. Augustine was sent by the pope. He converted the people again to Christianity; he turned heathen temples into churches; in place of idols he set up saints. He changed the old dedications—Apollo to St. Peter,

Mahoun to St. Margaret or St. Mary Magdalene. 'The Synagogue of the Sun' was dedicated to our Lady. Thus St. Augustine consecrated to Christian use what had been the Seat of Satan in the days of Saxon heathendom. At that time London was called New Troy; it has ever been the metropolis and chief town. Its great temple was dedicated to a mighty devil, and bore his name. This devil was the most honoured of all idols in Saxon lands. There were then three metropolitan cities in Britain, each with its great temple, and London's 'Temple Triapolitan'—' be thrid temple hit wos tolde of Triapolitanes'—became, after St. Augustine's mission, the Minster of St. Paul.

The alliterative poets found special delight in preluding their poems with references to the legend that linked Britain with Brutus, the eponymous Trojan who first settled the land. But this miracle of Erkenwald, connecting Christian London with pagan Troynovant, called for a prologue dealing with heathen England, and more especially with St. Augustine's conversion of the Saxons, and with the transformation of heathen temples into Christian churches. The reference to Brutus was to find due place in the poem itself.

The main source of our poet's knowledge was certainly Geoffrey of Monmouth's Historia Britonum. His references to the driving of the Britons into Wales by the Saxons, to the perversion of the folk who remained (more particularly those of London), and to the apostasy of Britain till the coming of St. Augustine, are clearly derived from Book XI, chs. viii-xii. When, however, our poet proceeds with the statement regarding the hurling out of the heathen idols and the dedications of the temples as churches, he is rightly transferring to St. Augustine the account given in Geoffrey concerning Lucius, the first British king to embrace the Christian faith. In Book IV, ch. xix, it is told how in his

time and at his request two holy men had been sent to Britain by Pope Eleutherius. After they had almost extinguished paganism throughout the whole island, they dedicated the temples, that had been founded in honour of many gods, to the one God and His saints, and filled them with congregations of Christians. In Book V, ch. i, we are told that Lucius rejoiced at the great progress which the true faith had made in his kingdom, and permitted the possessions and territories which formerly belonged to the temples of the gods to be converted to better uses and appropriated to Christian churches. Lucius died in A. D. 156. Here we clearly have the source of '& chargit hom better' (l. 18).

So far as St. Augustine's consecration of a heathen temple for Christian worship is concerned, his name is associated with St. Pancras, Canterbury, which was the first church dedicated by him. This, as the historian Thorn tells us, was originally 'a temple or idol-house, where King Ethelbert used to pray according to the rites of his nation and in company with his nobles, "to sacrifice to devils and not to God". This temple', Thorn continues, 'Augustine purified from the pollutions and defilements of the Gentiles, and breaking the image which was in it, converted the synagogue into a church.' He states as follows: 'Phanum sive ydolum situm, ubi rex Ethelbertus secundum ritum gentis suae solebat orare, et cum nobilibus suis daemoniis et non Deo sacrificare. Quod phanum Augustinus ab inquinamentis et sordibus gentilium purgavit, et simulacro quod in ea erat confracto synagogam mutavit in ecclesiam.'1

Our poet evidently knew from Bede's Ecclesiastical History St. Gregory's famous letter to the Abbot Mellitus concerning

¹ From the Chronicle of William Thorn, fl. 1397 (see Mason, Mission of St. Augustine, p. 94), whose work up to the year 1228 was mainly from Sprott's History of St. Augustine's, Canterbury; Sprott flourished about 1270.

the heathen temples in England. 'When Almighty God brings you through to our brother the Bishop Augustine, tell him what I have long been turning over in my thoughts in reference to the English; namely, not to let the idol temples be destroyed in that nation, but to have the idols in them destroyed. Holy water should be made and sprinkled in the temples, altars built, and relies placed there. For if the temples are well built, they ought to be converted from the worship of demons to the service of the true God; so that the people, seeing that their temples are not destroyed, may put away error from their hearts, and knowing and adoring the true God, may come with more of the sense of being at home to the familiar places.' 1

Our poet does not refer specifically to the foundation of St. Pancras, but his instances are noteworthy:

(1) 'That ere was of Apollo is now of Saint Peter' (1. 19). It was a well-known tradition that a church to St. Peter was erected by Seberht, king of the East Saxons, out of the remains of a temple of Apollo that stood on its site at Thorney, i.e. Westminster. Concerning the history of Westminster Abbey, and the early legends connected with the foundation, see the History of the Abbey by John Flete, who was a monk of the house from 1420 to 1465. The work, well known and often quoted, was first edited by Dr. J. Armitage Robinson, Dean of Westminster, in 1909. The first document given by Flete claims to be from an ancient Anglo-Saxon chronicle; but

¹ The Mission of St. Augustine to England according to the Original Documents, ed. Professor A. J. Mason, Cambridge, 1897, p. 89. Compare Venerabilis Baedae Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum, ed. Dr. Charles Plummer, Oxford, 1896, Bk. I, ch. xxx, with the notes to the chapter. I think we may safely assume that the passage concerning Lucius in Geoffrey of Monmouth was due, by a very natural application, to this passage in Bede's History. See also Sir Henry Howorth's Saint Augustine of Canterbury, 1913.

according to the editor, it cannot be much earlier than the middle of the twelfth century. It gives an account of 'the first foundation of the church by King Lucius in A. D. 184, its degradation to be a temple of Apollo after the Diocletian persecution, its reconstruction by King Sebert and its consecration by St. Peter "in the spirit". Flete states that the pagan Angles and Saxons, having driven out the Christian Britons, erected altars and temples to their own gods. He then adds these words: 'rediit itaque veteris abominationis ubique sententia; a sua Britones expelluntur patria; immolat Dianae Londonia, thurificat Apollini suburbana Thorneia.'

- (2) Possibly the reference to Westminster Abbey prompted 'Mahound to Saint Margaret', which immediately follows, though there were many other churches in London dedicated to St. Margaret besides the parish church of Westminster. There is nothing specific in 'Mahon', which, like its variant 'Maumet', was applied to any false god or idol, under the common mediaeval idea that the false prophet was worshipped as a divinity.
- (3) 'The Synagogue of the Sun was set to our Lady' (l. 21). In the whole poem there is perhaps nothing more striking than this fine alliterative line, the significance of which has hitherto not been recognized. In thinking of instances to illustrate the conversion of heathen temples into Christian churches, our poet recalled from his reading of Geoffrey of Monmouth how King Bladud, the father of King Leir, built Kaerbadus, now Bath, and made hot baths in it for the benefit of the people, which he dedicated to the goddess Minerva, in whose temple he kept fires 'that never went out nor consumed to ashes, but as soon as they began to decay, were turned into balls of stone'. Now the Latin name for Bath, Aquae Solis, is said to be a Romanizing of the name of the divinity worshipped at Bath, namely Sul, whom the

Romans identified with Minerva. The Roman remains which were found under the site of the present Pump Room are the clearest evidence of the grandeur of the temples dedicated to Sul Minerva, whose image has been discovered, together with several altars and many other remains, including a tombstone with the name of one of her priests, and also portions of the pediment of the temple with the great round sun-like face which was in the middle of it, perhaps one of the most remarkable relics of Celtic Britain.

Camden and other antiquaries maintain that the Abbey Church stands where once was a temple consecrated to Minerva. On the other hand, according to the Red Book of Bath, in a statement added in 1582, it would appear that it was the old church of St. Mary de Stabula, i. e. St. Mary Stall, that had been built upon the ruins of a temple to Minerva, some of the ruins being actually then in existence.1 The greatest authority on Roman Britain, the late Professor Haverfield, summing up the evidence on the subject in the Victoria History of Somerset, vol. i, p. 229, asserts that 'while we admit a temple to Minerva, we shall find no evidence that it stood on the site either of the Abbey or of the now vanished church of St. Mary Stall', and he adds in a foot-note that the reference in the Red Book of Bath was more probably due to antiquarian theory than to fact, otherwise we should have heard of it from Leland or Camden; elsewhere he states that no one else mentions a ruin, and that it seems merely a bit of sixteenth-century antiquarianism. But I venture to think that the present line gives the missing evidence, for here our author, who may be assumed to be speaking from actual knowledge or local tradition, chooses out for special mention the Temple of the Sun, i.e. of Sul Minerva at Bath, as

xvii e

¹ Est istud epitaphium sculptum a dextra in ostio ruinosi templi quondam Minervae dedicati, et adhuc in loco dicto sese studiosis offerens.

having been consecrated to our Lady. His statement tends to confirm the evidence afforded by the fact that the remains of the temple were found for the most part in Stall Street, i.e. near the site of the now no longer existing church of St. Mary Stall. It is quite likely that some vestiges of the old temple still existed in the fourteenth century, and that the reference, even as late as 1582, in the Red Book of Bath, is not merely due, as Professor Haverfield maintained, to antiquarian imagination. In my opinion, however, the absence of any reference thereto in Camden and Leland is not conclusive, for one could point to many noteworthy omissions in the works of both these antiquaries. Further, I am inclined to hold that we have other corroborative evidence enforcing the view I venture to set forth. In Layamon's Brut, written early in the thirteenth century, in the rendering of the passage quoted above from Geoffrey of Monmouth concerning Bladud as the founder of Bath and the builder of the temple to Minerva, we have (in the older of the two manuscripts of the poem) an interesting amplification, with the statement that he called Minerva 'læfdi', i.e. lady, and that the perpetual fire that burned in the temple was 'to the worship of his lady, who was dear to him in heart'.

> 'to wroscipe his læfdi, pe leof him wes on heorten,' 1

Is not this interpolation a reference to the Church of Our Lady, St. Mary at Stall,² as existing in Layamon's time on the site of the pagan temple to Minerva, whom Bladud called 'his lady'? Layamon, who lived not so very far from Bath, would certainly have been acquainted with the history and traditions of the city. It is worth while noting, in dealing

¹ Vol. i, p. 121.

² St. Mary intra Muros, as it was called, in the year 1290 was so dilapidated that it then had to be thoroughly repaired.

with the story of Bladud, that Geoffrey of Monmouth tells how that weird king, who first attempted to fly to the upper regions of the air with wings which he had prepared, fell down upon the temple of Apollo in the city of Trinovantum, i.e. New Troy, where he was dashed to pieces.¹

Before leaving the subject of ancient Bath, and references thereto in these early poems, I cannot forgo the mention of the earliest of all allusions in English literature to its ruins which already in Anglo-Saxon times seem to have inspired no mean poet. In lines preserved in the Exeter Book we have, as Professor Earle, in my view, convincingly maintained, a description of the old Brito-Roman ruined city as left devastated after A. p. 577:

'Bright were the buildings, the bath-houses many, High-towered the pinnacles, frequent the war-clang, Many the mead-halls, of merriment full, Till all was overturned by Fate the violent... There stood courts of stone! The stream hotly rushed With eddy wide (wall all enclosed), With bosom bright (there the baths were), Hot in its nature, that was a boon indeed.' 2

The alliterative formula 'Synagoge of be Sonne' was an echo of 'Synagoga Satanae', i.e. synagogue of Satan; and in 1.24 the poet refers to the 'seat of Satan' (Rev. ii. 13). It should be noted that synagoga or 'synagoge' was common in Latin as in Middle English in the sense of a heathen temple.

(4) The mention of Jupiter and Juno, as yielding to Jesus or James, has no definite significance, and the seeming identifi-

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cations are due to alliterative effect, as in the case of 'Maude-layne' (l. 20), alliterating with 'Margrete'.

(5) The poet then passes again to London, and deals specifically with the heathen temple that, after the conversion of the East Saxons, became the Cathedral of St. Paul's. He tells how a mighty devil was worshipped in that great minster of London, 'the metropolis',1 then called New Troy. The Saxon temple was called after its idol, which was the greatest divinity in Saxon lands. It is strange that the author avoids giving the name of the heathen god. Old legends of St. Paul's conjectured that 'a temple of Diana formerly stood here',2 but our poet, in touching on Saxon paganism, had no need to take cognizance of this legend. In Geoffrey of Monmouth, Bk. VI, ch. x, it is told in a famous passage how Hengist, on arriving in Kent, was conducted into the presence of Vortigern, who was then at Canterbury, and in a great speech explained how he and his brother Horsa, under the good guidance of Mercury, had arrived in that kingdom. The historian then tells that the king, at the name of Mercury, looked earnestly upon them, and asked them what religion they professed. 'We worship', replied Hengist, 'our country gods, Saturn and Jupiter, and the other deities that govern the world, but especially Mercury, whom in our language we call Woden, and to whom our ancestors consecrated the fourth day of the week, still called after his name Wodensday. Next to him we worship the powerful goddess Frea, to whom they also dedicated the sixth day, which after her name we call Friday.' The poet is dealing, as he himself says, with the heathendom of London 'in Hengist's days'. It was ingenious on his part,

¹ He evidently got the term 'metropol' from Bede II, ch. iii, where 'Lundonia civitas' is described as the 'Orientalium Saxonum... metropolis', the metropolis of the East Saxons.

² Camden's Britannia, 1789, vol. ii, p. 5.

with the passage just quoted before him, to infer (for I can discover no legendary authority for it) that Mercury, or rather Woden, was in pagan Saxon times the presiding 'devil' of the heathen temple later consecrated to St. Paul. among the Teutons was the highest divinity, and was later identified with Mercury. In the Germania of Tacitus 1 it is clearly stated, 'deorum maxime Mercurium colunt, cui certisdiebus humanis quoque hostiis litare fas habent' (ch. 9). Similarly Caesar (Bk. VI, ch. 17, § 1) mentions Mercury as the chief god of the Gauls, and Tacitus seems to be echoing Caesar's words with reference to the Germanic divinity. The value of Caesar's observation is that he enumerates the functions of Mercurius as the basis of his identification: 'hunc omnium inventorem artium ferunt; hune viarum atque itinerum ducem; hunc ad quaestus pecuniae mercaturasque habere vim maximam arbitrantur.' The name of the fourth day of the week, dies Mercurii (in its various Romance forms), our Wednesday, affords an interesting example of the interprelatio Romana, which attempted to identify with Latin gods and goddesses the divinities of other pagan cults.

The old tradition that St. Paul's Cathedral was built on the site of a temple to Diana is a legend closely connected with Brute's foundation of Troynovant, seeing that the Trojan hero was led to seek out Britain, as Geoffrey of Monmouth narrates, by that goddess's prophetic utterance, which came to him in a vision:

'Brute! sub occasum solis trans Gallica regna, Insula in oceano est undique clausa mari: Insula in oceano est habitata gigantibus olim, Nunc deserta quidem, gentibus apta tuis.

¹ Germania, ed. H. Furneaux, Oxford, 1894. On Woden and Mercury, see Grimm, Teutonic Mythology, trans. Stallybrass, 1882, vol. i, chs. vi, vii. and relevant notes, vol. iii.

Hanc pete, namque tibi sedes erit illa perennis:
Sic fiet natis altera Troia tuis.
Sic de prole tua reges nascentur: et ipsis
Totius terrae subditus orbis erit.'

That the legend existed in the Middle Ages is attested by the old manuscript quoted in the *History of Westminster Abbey*, by John Flete, already referred to, where occur the striking words, already quoted, with reference to the driving out of the Britons by the pagan Saxons: 'immolat Dianae Londonia, thurificat Apollini suburbana Thorneia.'

Even in the seventeenth century, Bishop Corbet rhetorically exclaimed: 'It was once dedicated to Diana, at least some part of it; but the idolatry lasted not long; and see a mystery in the change: St. Paul confuting twice the Idol: there, in person, where the cry was, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" and here, by proxy, Paul installed while Diana is thrust out.' 2 Dugdale, in his History of St. Paul's, taking cognizance of what has been stated on the subject, thought it probable enough that in the place where Ethelbert, King of Kent, had built St. Paul's, there had been a temple of the goddess Diana. He was inclined to accept the evidence which Camden adduced, namely, 'the structure near at hand, called Diana's Chambers, and the multitude of ox-heads digged up, when the east part thereof was rebuilded (temp. Edward I), which were then thought to be the relics of the Gentiles' sacrifices'.3 Christopher Wren, according to the Memoirs compiled by his son, did not credit the common story that a temple to Diana had stood there. If there had been such a temple, he supposed that it might have been within the walls of the Colony and more to the south.4

¹ Bk. I, ch. 11.

² History of St. Paul's, by W. Longman.

³ Dugdale's History of St. Paul's Cathedral, 1658, p. 3.

⁴ Parentalia, compiled by Christopher Wren, and pub. 1750, pp. 266, 286.

There can, however, be little doubt that Diana was worshipped in Roman London, for on the site of Goldsmiths' Hall there was found an altar dedicated to the goddess, still preserved at Goldsmiths' Hall; this site, however, is some way from the Cathedral. Diana's Chambers, which were on Paul's Wharf Hill, according to a local tradition referred rather to Henry II's Fair Rosamund: 'as he had called her at Woodstock Rosa Mundi, so here he called her Diana'.

The last two lines of the Prologue, referring to St. Paul's as the third temple Triapolitan, take us again to the statement in Geoffrey telling how the sacerdotal functionaries in heathen Britain were transformed in the time of Lucius, the first Christian king of Britain, into a Christian hierarchy, and how the three chief centres of paganism became the three great metropolitan cities of Christian Britain. Hence the poet's 'Triapolitanes', an erroneous formation for 'tripolitans' in the sense of a trinity of metropolitan cities; cp. Tripolis and 'tripolitanus'. The form of the word reminds one of 'trialogus' (on the supposed analogy of 'dialogue'). 'Trialogue', however, is first recorded in English in the sixteenth century; but it is noteworthy that Wyclif uses the Med. Latin 'trialogus' as the title of one of his Latin works, conjectured to belong to the year 1383.

To sum up, our poet may be credited with having taken into account the legendary history of St. Paul's as follows: a heathen temple (dedicated probably to Diana) in the earliest days of Troynovant; its Christianizing, as one of the three Metropolitan British churches, in the time of Lucius; its perversion to paganism by the Saxons; its rededication, after the mission of St. Augustine, as St. Paul's Cathedral. In the time of the British King Belin, the temple was of course the

¹ Rev. W. Sparrow Simpson, Chapters in the History of Old St. Paul's, 1881, p. 70.

seat of heathen worship, and was dedicated to some heathen divinity. It is strange that in this connexion the poet nowhere refers to Diana. Can it be that he is thinking of the exalted type of paganism described with reference to the conversion of Britain to Christianity by Lucius:—'There were then in Britain eight and twenty flamens, as also three archflamens, to whose jurisdiction the other judges and enthusiasts were subject... where there were flamens [they] made them bishops, where archflamens, archbishops. The seats of the archflamens were the three noblest cities, viz., London, York, and the City of Legions.' As regards the dedication of the heathen temples, it is merely there stated, as has been mentioned already, that they had been founded in honour of many gods, and were now dedicated to the one only God and His saints.

Accordingly, the Prologue ends by stating that the Saxon heathen temple in London had been formerly accounted one of the three Metropolitan seats. These in the time of the British Lucius had been established in place of the three Metropolitan seats of the British archflamens.

Our poet seems to show a fine sense of antiquarianism² in his suggestion that the pagan Saxon dedication was to Woden, to whom the earliest Anglo-Saxon kings traced their genealogies. 'The adoration of Woden', as Grimm puts it, 'must reach up to immemorial times, a long way beyond the first notices given us by the Romans of Mercury's worship in Germania.' ³

¹ Geoffrey, as above, Bk. IV, ch. 19.

² This was probably due to his interpretation of Bede's statement, Bk. II, ch. 6, 'Mellitum vero Lundonienses episcopum recipere nolucrunt, idolatris magis pontificibus servire gaudentes'. Green and other modern historians take the same view, though Gomme, in his Governance of London, 1907, pp. 109-13, traverses, erroneously in my view, Green's statement on the subject.

³ Teutonic Mythology, vol. i, p. 164, trans. Stallybrass. Bede in his account of the Saxons, Angles, and Jutes, refers to the pedigrees of the kings from Woden, Hist. Eccles. i. 15.

PREFACE

It would seem that during the early Middle Ages this pagan divinity still presided over German cities, even as, with reference to the image of Mercurius at Rome, it is recorded in the *Kaiserchronik*:

'Upon a column Stood an idol huge, Him they called their merchant.' 1

Woden, or Mercury, the god of traffickers and merchantmen, would have been singularly appropriate as the presiding idol of the City of London.

St. Erkenwald. The most famous of London's early bishops was Saint Erkenwald, who, fourth in succession after St. Augustine's mission, was consecrated in the year 675 as bishop of the East Saxons.² Sprung from a royal house, Erkenwald had previously founded two monasteries, the one at Chertsey in Surrey, over which he himself presided, and the other in Essex, at Barking, for his sister, in which, as Bede puts it, 'she might live as teacher and foster-mother of women devoted to God. When she took over the government of the monastery, she showed herself in all things worthy to rank with the bishop her brother by a life of piety and discipline, as was afterwards also proved by heavenly marvels.'

¹ See Grimm, as before, vol. i, p. 116; vol. iv, p. 1322. The word I have rendered 'column' is the difficult word 'yrmensûle' in the original.

² Cp. Bede, IV. vi. 'Tum etiam Orientalibus Saxonibus... Earconwaldum constituit episcopum in civitate Lundonia.' So our poet calls Erkenwald 'a byschop in pat burghe' (l. 3), and 'bischop at loue London ton' (l. 34). Erkenwald appears to have been the first bishop of London with St. Paul's as seat. He might well be considered the traditional founder of the Cathedral. His predecessor Wine was held to be unworthy, having bought the see 'with a price'. Cedd, the second bishop, was a missionary bishop with no fixed seat, while a period of idolatry succeeded the expulsion of Mellitus, the famous first bishop of London, at whose instance Ethelbert had built the church of St. Paul's.

See the article on Erkenwald, Dictionary of Christian Biography, vol. ii, 177-9, by Bishop Stubbs, and the Rev. W. Hunt's article in the Dictionary of National Biography.

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Our poet is evidently referring to Bishop Erkenwald's association with this Essex foundation, when he states that at the time of the discovery of the tomb he 'was parted from home, in Essex was Sir Erkenwald an abbey to visit'. He is said to have done much for the fabric of the cathedral, and was par excellence the great bishop of St. Paul's. Many legends attested his holiness, 'as was proved subsequently by signs of heavenly miracles', to quote again from Bede. It was by a miracle that it was decided that his body should be carried to London and buried at St. Paul's, for it would appear that he had died at Barking, and the monks of Chertsey strove with the nuns of Barking for the privileged possession of the bishop's body. He died on April 30, 693. His shrine was the chief glory of Old St. Paul's. Canon Sparrow Simpson states that he was buried in the nave; that in the great fire of London in 1087-8, when the cathedral was destroyed, the legends say that the saint's resting-place alone escaped injury. In 1148 his remains were placed in the east side of the wall above the high altar; in 1326 an even more glorious shrine received them. St. Erkenwald's Shrine at St. Paul's was famous far and wide, and jewels and other precious gifts were lavished on it. There are many references to these benefactions. In 1358 we are told that three goldsmiths were engaged to work upon it for a whole year. It would appear, however, that by 1386 the observance of the days of the saint's death and translation had become somewhat neglected, for in that year Bishop Braybroke, who took a leading part in the politics of the time and had been Chancellor in 1382-3, re-established the two festivals of St. Erkenwald, to be kept as 'first class feasts' at St. Paul's. In 1385 he had taken strong measures against the violation of the sanctity of the cathedral by buying and selling in it, and other like offences. It is hardly necessary in this place to deal with the later history of the shrine, concerning which Dugdale, in his History of St. Paul's, has much to say.

Descriptive Details in the Poem. Our poet associates the miracle which is the subject of the poem with St. Erkenwald's rebuilding of one part of the old minster, called specifically 'New Work'. He is evidently using a term well known in his time. According to Stow, 'the new work of Paul's (so called) at the east end above the choir was begun in the year 1251', and elsewhere he notes 'also the new work of Paul's, to wit, the cross aisles, were begun to be new builded in the year 1256'.¹ The poet is obviously transferring to the time of Erkenwald the structural additions belonging to the middle of the thirteenth century.

It is generally stated (e.g. in Henry Harben's Dictionary of London) that the first shops were erected in St. Paul's Churchyard about 1587, and that these were mainly inhabited by stationers; but from our poem it would appear that a couple of centuries before that date the 'Yard' was famous as the centre for the making of rich attire. The poet states, in describing the clothes of the body so long dead, that they were

'as bright of their blee, in blazing hues, As they had yarely in that Yard been yesterday shapen.'

The allusion is remarkable from the standpoint of London archaeology, more especially as in our own day St. Paul's Churchyard is commercially associated with millinery and dress. We have here what seems to me to be an interesting glimpse of the immediate environment of the Cathedral at the end of the fourteenth century.

The mention of the bishop's palace 2 must have reference to

¹ Stow's Survey of London, 1603, ed. C. L. Kingsford, 1908, vol. i, p. 326.

² The use of 'palace' as the residence of a bishop within his cathedral city is recorded in English at the end of the thirteenth century. The

the palace existing at the time of the poet, adjoining the northern side of the nave. From a private door the bishop could pass into the nave.¹

The tomb of the pagan judge, which was found in what is evidently the crypt, was of gray marble stone, beautifully garnished with gargoyles; a canopy above it, also of marble; bright gold letters round the border of it, though in some strange language. The lid was heavy and large, but evidently with no recumbent figure on it. The tomb within was painted with gold. The poet clearly has in mind a typical Gothic tomb, and is not attempting to describe with archaeological exactness a monument belonging to centuries before the Christian era. The description of the tomb of Hector in Guido de Colonna's Historia Trojana, which our poet may have read, was at least a more ambitious effort. It would be hazardous to suggest that the Geste Historiale, the alliterative rendering of Guido's Historia, ante-dated our poem, but, if only for the purposes of comparative study, attention may well be directed to the passage.2 Certainly, according to our poet, the grief of Troynovant at the death of the judge almost equalled that of Troy at the loss of the beloved Hector. 'When I died,' says the judge, 'for dole all Troy resounded.'

The pagan judge is described, or rather describes himself, as not only a man of law, a high judge, almost a Lord Chief Justice, but also as deputy-governor of Troynovant, chief

site of the Bishop of London's Palace at St. Paul's is preserved in London House Yard, north out of St. Paul's Churchyard, at nos. 74 and 79, to Paternoster Row. This London House Yard must be differentiated from the yard of the same name on the west side of Aldersgate Street, the site of London House, the residence of the Bishops of London for a time after the Restoration. A further interesting note on the palace of the Bishops of London will be found in H. A. Harben's Dictionary of London.

¹ See Sparrow Simpson, Chapters in the History of Old St. Paul's, p. 64.

² See alliterative Destruction of Troy, 11. 8733-825.

magistrate of the City of London. He is, in fact, portrayed as holding what later (from the year 1193) would correspond to the office of Mayor of London, only he is the deputy of a duke, evidently the Sub-Regulus referred to in the old chronicles. The Justiciar of London under the Norman and early Plantagenet kings was a well-known dignitary. The office came to an end in the thirteenth century. The lines in which the judge describes himself are important:

'I was deputy and doomsman under a noble duke, And in my power this place was put altogether; I justiced this jolly town in gentlest way.'

It is noteworthy that our poet uses the word 'communates', which is very suggestive of association with the Commune of London. The ordinary formula in the *Liber Albus* is 'concessio maioris et communitatis'. London became a Commune in 1191, and to about the same date belongs the creation of the office of Mayor.

Of special interest, perhaps, is the judge's earlier reference to himself as 'an heire of anoye in po New Troie'. The phrase, as the text stands in the manuscript, has been variously interpreted. Dr. Horstmann suggested 'ein gefürchteter Herr', i.e. one held in awe, which is altogether untenable; while Dr. Neilson explained 'oye' as 'grandson', querying the meaning. From the context and the poetic style of the passage, it would seem that some specific office is referred to, the line being parallel to the statement that follows in the next quatrain, 'Then was I judge here enjoined in Gentile law'. I make bold to interpret the words of the text as a

¹ On the subject of early London government, see London and the Kingdom, Reginald Sharpe, 1894; Geoffrey de Mandeville, and The Commune of London, by J. H. Round; The Governance of London, by Sir Laurence Gomme; also Stubbs's Constitutional History, together with Studies Supplementary to the History, by M. Petit-Dutaillis, the latter work dealing with the subject of the Justiciar and Commune.

statement that the judge describes himself as having been a justice en eyre, presiding over a court of oyer et determiner. It is of interest that from at least the twelfth century the 'iudices itinerantes' heard cases at the Stone Cross in the Strand; see Stow's Survey. 2

If one were forced to find sense in the words without any change, they could only mean 'an heir of anger' = a child of wrath = one not an heir of everlasting life, a pagan; cp. Eph. ii. 3. Against this must, however, be weighed the parallelism noted to 1. 216. The judge has already referred to his paganism in 11. 203-4.

Chronological Problems. The pagan judge is made to give what appears to be the exact date of the time when he lived. As the text stands, it is indeed, to quote the judge himself, 'a lappid date'. According to the reading of the manuscript, ll. 205-12, 482 years after the building of London equates with 1054 B.C. This would give 1536 B.C. as the date of the building of London. But the date indicated by Geoffrey of Monmouth for the building of London is the time when Eli the priest governed in Judea, and the Ark of the Covenant was taken by the Philistines. The accepted date for the beginning of Eli's judgeship is 1156 B.C.³ He judged forty years according to the Hebrew text, and twenty according to the Septuagint, his death being associated with the taking of the Ark. The date of the building of London is therefore either 1116 B.C. or 1136 B.C.

Further, the judge explains that he lived in the reign of King Belinus, the brother of Brennius whom Geoffrey identi-

¹ The spelling 'heyre' is a fairly common spelling of 'eyre', and is used by Britton and others; see Note on 1. 211.

² Stow's Survey of London, 1908, vol. ii, p. 93.

⁸ See Bede's Chronicle of the Six Ages of the World, a work evidently used generally for purposes of chronology (Complete Works of Venerable Bede, Giles, 1843, vol. vi, p. 134).

fied with the Brennus of early Roman history, and no reader of Geoffrey of Monmouth could possibly have dated any event of the reign of Belinus a thousand and more years B.C., as has been done by the scribe of the present text.

The manuscripts of Geoffrey of Monmouth often give rubrics or other additions stating the actual dates of the events described, and these computations are followed by mediaeval and later chroniclers, and are found in Holinshed and other Elizabethan historians. Belinus and Brennius were the sons of Mulmutius, who died 354 years after the building of Rome (B.C. 753). This should give us 399 B.C., so that at all events the date given by our scribe, 1054 B.C., must be wrong. And we may safely assume that his 'pousande' was due to a misreading of iije as the symbol much resembling it, M i.e. 1000. The line should therefore read:

'pre hundred zere & pritty mo & zet threnen aght,' i.e. 354. The date is not absolutely correct, but very nearly so, and I infer that the poet or his authority has taken the actual date of the beginning of Belinus's reign, computed as from the building of Rome, i.e. 354 A. U.C., erroneously as the date B.C.

As regards l. 208, 'nost bot fife hundred sere per aghtene wontyd', it is the only line throughout the whole poem where the alliteration entirely fails, and had an f-alliteration been required, the poet would have found no difficulty in indicating 482 by such a correct line as, 'nost bot foure hundred sere and foure score & tweyne'. The 'fife' has evidently been due to a scribal effort to meet in some way or other the difficulty occasioned by the change from 300 to 1,000 in l. 210. The poet must have written either 'one' or 'aght' where we now have 'fife'. The former may be ruled out as the poet would know that many monarchs had reigned

between Brute and Belinus; the latter may therefore be accepted, and accordingly the line gives us 782.

The date 782 years from the building of London is equivalent to 354 B.C. Accordingly, our poet must have taken 1136 B.C. for the building of London, which is the date indicated by Geoffrey if the Septuagint chronology with reference to Eli is adopted.

Misunderstanding the erroneous l. 210 as it stands in the manuscript, Dr. Horstmann, and all who have written on the subject, interpret the date given by the dead judge as 1033 B.c., ignoring the fact that 'threnen aght = 3 × 8, i.e. 24, which added to 1030 must make 1054. Dr. Neilson even finds confirmation for the 1033 by taking certain rubricated dates in the Hunterian MS. of Geoffrey of Monmouth to corroborate the 'legendary arithmetic', as he calls it, of the poem. Finding one date A.M. 4482, and subtracting from it another date A.M. 3449, he declares the interval between, 1033 years, to be the date given by the dead judge! Even so careful a scholar as Professor Wells, in his Manual of the Writings in Middle English, accepts the error, and makes the reign of King Belin cover the year 1033 B.C.

Belinus and Brennius were the sons of the famous Dunwallo Molmutius, the first to gain the sceptre of Britain. Geoffrey of Monmouth tells us that 'having made entire reduction of the island, he prepared himself a crown of gold, and restored the kingdom to its ancient state. This prince established what Britons call the Molmutine laws, which are famous among the English to this day.' 1 These laws are said to have enacted the privilege of sanctuary, and to have done much to prevent murder and cruelties, and to have promoted public security and justice.

After a reign of forty years he died and was buried in the

¹ Bk. II, ch. 17.

city of Trinovantum, near the Temple of Concord which he himself built when he first established his laws.

Geoffrey states that Belinus revived and confirmed the Molmutine laws, especially those relating to highways, and adds that 'if any one is curious to know all that he decreed, let him read the Molmutine Laws which Gildas the historian translated from British into Latin, and King Alfred into English'.1 Into the quarrels between the two brothers, Brennius and Belinus, to which our poet refers, ll. 213-15, and to their ultimate friendship by the mediation of their mother, it is not necessary to enter. A full account is given in Geoffrey's history. Brennius staying in Italy, Belinus returned to Britain, and governed in peace during the remainder of his life. To Londoners he was especially endeared by the gate of wonderful structure which he erected on the banks of the Thames, 'which the citizens call after his name Belingsgate, i.e. Billingsgate, to this day. Over it he built a prodigiously large tower, and under it a haven or quay for ships.' His ashes were put in a golden urn on the top of this tower.

In closing the account of Belin, Geoffrey emphasizes that he was a strict observer of justice, and re-established his father's laws everywhere throughout the kingdom.

It is noteworthy that his son Gurgiunt Brabture followed his father's example in every respect. He, too, was a lover of

peace and justice.

The pagan judge belonged appropriately to the reign of King Belin, this prince of justice. I cannot agree with Dr. Neilson that the dead judge is a poetic equation of Dunwallo, the father of King Belin. It is true that Dunwallo, even as the judge, died after forty years' rule; but 'forty' is a commonplace conventional term for a generation,

derived from the Biblical use of the number. Moreover, the poet is most anxious to insist on the fact that the pagan was neither king nor kaiser, but a man of law. His highest position was that of 'deputy and doomsman under a noble duke'. The crown he wore was not of kingship, but the crown of the righteous judge (ll. 253-5), and can hardly have been suggested by the golden diadem that Dunwallo made for himself as supreme king of Britain. Though placed upon the judge's head by his pagan fellow-citizens, the crown he wore was as it were an anticipatory emblem of the crown of righteousness laid up for him by the Righteous Judge, even as is said by St. Paul in 2 Tim. iv. 7-8, 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness'. The judge had fought the good fight, though he had often to suffer for righteousness' sake (l. 232).

Dr. Neilson further calls attention to the statement in Geoffrey of Monmouth as regards Belinus, the successor of Dunwallo, that when he died 'his ashes were laid in a case or coffin of gold', and suggests some connexion between this cinerary golden urn on Billingsgate and the marble tomb containing the richly clad body of the judge in the crypt of St. Paul's. This suggestion well illustrates to what lengths parallelism can be drawn.

Source of the Legend. No direct source for this miracle of St. Erkenwald has so far been discovered. Extant literature concerning St. Erkenwald, other than this English poem, makes no mention of this legend. The most important collection of his miracles, *Miracula Sancti Erkenwaldi*, preserved

¹ See Manuscripts at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, by M. R. James; also Descriptive Catalogue of Materials, by Sir T. D. Hardy; also Stubbs's article in Dict. Christ. Biog. This life of Erkenwald and the collection of Miracles were composed by the nephew of the famous 'Gilbert the Universal', Bishop of London during the early part of the twelfth century.

in a twelfth-century MS. (Parker 161) at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, notwithstanding the erroneous statement of Professor J. R. Hulbert, does not include this miracle, as has been well known for some twenty years.¹

The absence of this miracle from the Cambridge manuscript makes it most improbable that any such miracle was in early times associated with Erkenwald. As an Erkenwald legend it would seem therefore to be at all events later than that compilation.

The study of the poem from the archaeological point of view has revealed, as I have attempted to show, that in the treatment of the theme the poet has allowed full play to his imagination, both as regards the historical facts connected with the history of St. Paul's, the treatment of the theme generally, and especially the association of the pagan judge with the reign of King Belin. His careful reading of Geoffrey of Monmouth and Bede's Ecclesiastical History for

¹ Dr. Hulbert in his article, 'The sources of St. Erkenwald and The Trental of Gregory', Modern Philology, 1919, definitely states that the Latin source is in the Miracula Sancti Erkenwaldi, and quotes as his authority Horstmann's Altenglische Legenden, Neue Folge, 1881, p. 528. It is only fair to Dr. Horstmann to state that he does not say this. He uses the word 'wohl', i.e. the legend is in all probability to be found there.

Dr. Neilson in Huchown of the Awle Ryale, 1902, states that the Corpus Christi College MS. 'does not at all account for the detailed and romantically specific story. Miss Mary Bateson most obligingly put herself to the trouble of examining this MS. for me.' In spite of this statement, the first sentence of which alone he quotes in a foot-note, Dr. Hulbert writes about the compiler of the Latin Miracula being perhaps actually the first person to attach the present legend to Erkenwald, 'and perhaps his narrative is the direct source of the English poem'. Later on he theorizes on a possible intermediary between the Latin legend and the English poem!

Miss Laura Hibbard, not knowing that the non-inclusion of the legend in the MS. had long ago been established, in her article in *Modern Philology*, April, 1920, called attention to Dr. Hulbert's error, though again she imputes to Dr. Horstmann the assertion which he did not make, that the manuscript was 'the immediate source of the poem'.

effective details, and many of his subtle touches, suggest that here the creative skill of a poet is exercising itself.

In an article which appeared in Modern Philology, Miss Laura Hibbard called attention to what seemed to be an important piece of evidence tending to prove that there was current in London, at the time our poet was writing, some well-known story concerning the head of a judge found in the crypt of St. Paul's. She found that apparently John de Bromyarde, the famous Dominican of the second half of the fourteenth century, the author of the most notable collection of Exempla, well known in manuscript, and often reprinted, entitled Summa Praedicantium, had twice in this work referred to this incident: 'Nota de judice cujus caput Londoniis in fundamentum [sic] ecclesiae Sancti Pauli inventum fuit, etc.': and deduced from the evidence before her that the story was so well known that the author found it unnecessary to say more. She concluded that Bromyarde knew that a head had some time or other been found, or was alleged to have been found, in the crypt of St. Paul's, and that it was known to be that of a judge. Further, this reference, in the printed text, occurs among Bromyarde's exempla of justice.

Unfortunately, although this allusion to the discovery of the judge's head in the crypt of St. Paul's is found in the printed editions of Bromyarde, it would seem from the study of available manuscripts to be a later interpolation. It is not found in the great vellum manuscript, Brit. Mus. Roy. 7 E. iv. of the late fourteenth century, though the manuscript shows many marginal additions.² It seems to belong

¹ Modern Philology, 'Erkenbald the Belgian, a Study in Medieval Exempla of Justice', 1920.

² The MS. at Peterhouse, Cambridge, belonging to the fourteenth-fifteenth century, is also without the interpolated passage. The MS. at Oriel College, Oxford, belonging to the fifteenth century, omits the whole passage following the words 'ei iusticiam fecit' (see Appendix, p. 53).

not to the original work, which was written after 1323, but to some late manuscript, as it is peculiar to the printed editions. Bromyarde, said to have been one of the Doctors of Theology present at the congregation which condemned Wyclif in 1382, was Chancellor of Cambridge University in 1383. For his collection of exempla, arranged alphabetically according to the qualities exemplified, he sought his materials far and wide, and he adduces many references to contemporary legends. It is, indeed, remarkable that, if such a legend existed, Bromyarde did not refer to it under the head of justice, where he instances Trajan, the righteous pagan emperor who miraculously received the crown of righteousness, and where he quotes in this connexion the passage from 2 Tim. iv. The manner in which the allusion to the head of the judge at St. Paul's is brought in, in the printed text, immediately after the reference to Trajan, has all the appearance of an interpolation, due to a late marginal addition. The 'etc.' at the end of the Note is noteworthy, so too the error of 'fundamentum' for 'fundamento'. Moreover, even on the evidence of the printed texts, Miss Hibbard is wrong in her statement that there are two references. There is only one; the cross-reference which she has evidently taken as the second is merely another reference to the Trajan story.1

At the same time, it is not likely (though not impossible) that the interpolation in the printed text of Bromyarde was a direct allusion to the present poem. With our poem in mind, one would hardly mention merely the head of the judge. On the whole, I am inclined to think the interpolation, due to some marginal addition in a late Bromyarde manuscript, may be independent of our poem, though later in date.

On the assumption that the reference is independent, we may conjecture from the context that the head miraculously spoke,

¹ See Appendix, p. 54.

and explained that it was that of a pagan judge who, having acted righteously, was allowed to await baptism.

The allusion could hardly be to some recent discovery; and there is nothing to support Miss Hibbard's view that the statement might record some actual discovery made in Bromyarde's own time, during the building and repairing that went on in the old church. 'It would not be at all surprising', she writes, 'if the workmen did actually come upon a Roman sarcophagus, and bones of the Roman dead.' But how would they know that it was a judge? Moreover, the allusion is to the head of a judge. Such an alleged discovery would much more probably be referred to some century or more before, say to the period of the 'New Work', i.e. about the middle of the thirteenth century, which period of rebuilding the poet evidently had in mind.

The Legend of Trajan and the Miracle of St. Gregory. The interpolated reference to the head found at St. Paul's follows Bromyarde's detailed account of the famous miracle wrought by St. Gregory on behalf of the pagan emperor Trajan,—

'l'alta gloria Del roman principato, il cui valore Mosse Gregorio alla sua gran vittoria.'

The legend, to which Dante refers in the well-known passages in *Purgatorio* x. 73–75, and *Paradiso* xx. 106–17, was widely current throughout the Middle Ages, and took a variety of forms.¹

Chapter XII of Arturo Graf's Roma nella memoria e nelle immaginazioni

 $^{^{\}mbox{\scriptsize 1}}$ The following are the chief studies on the subject, or relevant matters:

La Légende de Trajan, by Gaston Paris, Bibliothèque de l'École des Hautes Études, Fasc. 35, 1878. This comprehensive study deals with (1) the legend of Trajan and the widow, (2) Trajan and St. Gregory, and (3) the origin of the legend. The article contains full bibliographical references.

In the Purgatorio, Dante sees the story of Trajan and the widow portrayed among the examples of humility in Circle I of Purgatory. In the Paradizo, Trajan is placed between David and Hezekiah in the 'cielo di Giove', among the spirits of the just, the others being Constantine, William II of Sicily, and the Trojan Ripheus. The last named is the only real Gentile, though we are told that the three dames, Faith, Hope, and Charity, stood as baptism for him 'more than a thousand years before baptizing.1 The case of Trajan was To him was granted a second life, and hence different. a 'second death'. Dante dwells particularly on the presence in Paradise of Trajan and Ripheus, who with the other four are arranged in the shape of the eye and eyebrow of an eagle, the other spirits of this heaven forming the eagle itself. David is the pupil of the eye. While the eagle speaks, 'the two blessed lights' of Trajan and Ripheus 'as the beating of

del medio evo, Torino, 1882, treats the subject of Trajan, and owes much to the previous study.

Earlier considerations of the legend are referred to by both writers; perhaps the most striking are those to be found in the Annales Ecclesiastici of Baronius (1538-1607) and in the De Controversiis of Bellarmine (1542-1621). These two sixteenth-century cardinals rejected the miracle as utterly fictitious.

Giacomo Boni, in his article entitled 'Leggende', Nuova Antologia, Rome, 1906, discusses and illustrates the Trajan legend from the standpoint of sculptural and numismatic pictorial art. See also Mrs. Arthur Strong's Roman Sculpture from Augustus to Constantine, 1907.

Concerning St. Gregory, the student is referred to the Rev. F. Homes Dudden's Gregory the Great, 2 vols., London, 1905, and Sir Henry H. Howorth's Saint Gregory the Great, 1912.

See, also, the articles in Modern Philology, 1919-20, already referred to.

¹ The great philosophers, e. g. Aristotle, Socrates, Plato, men of science and poets, are in Limbo—Circle I—'a place not sad with torments, but with darkness alone', cp. *Purgatorio*, vii. 28-9.

Cato, the lover of liberty, whom Virgil describes as the lawgiver among the righteous dead in Elysium, has exceptionally a place in Purgatory.

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the eyes concordeth' flash together at the two ends. Ripheus is a character cursorily mentioned by Virgil in the Aeneid, and notably in Aeneid ii. 426-7:

'Cadit et Ripheus, iustissimus unus, Qui fuit in Teucris, et servantissimus aequi.'

Nothing is known of him otherwise, and his introduction in the *Paradiso* seems entirely due to Dante's reading of Virgil. It has often been wondered at, and I am not aware that any explanation has been forthcoming. I would suggest that Dante, in dealing with the subject of Trajan, was interested in the very common form of the name as 'Trojanus', which seemed to mean 'the Trojan'. The form of the name may have been due to the well-known attempt to link the Romans and other modern peoples with ancient Troy, and to claim descent from Aeneas and his progeny. Indeed, to this fond belief may possibly be due the ennobling of Trajan and the transference to him from Hadrian of some of his good qualities, for, indeed, it would appear that the story of his generosity belonged originally to Hadrian, whence the anecdote of the widow.² Dante, knowing that Trojanus was not the

¹ See Appendix, pp. 50, 51.

² Trajan lived A. D. 53-117, and his triumphs spread his fame far and wide. The main point in connexion with the legend is his attitude towards the early Christians, as regards which one must study his correspondence, and especially the famous letter to Pliny in which he deals with the treatment of the Christians. It is, on the whole, not harsh; at the same time some Christian writers, e.g. Tertullian, regarded him as a monster, while others seem to have praised his sense of justice. Pliny's panegyric may have helped to maintain Trajan's fair fame, for his reputation for justice must have been traditional to have produced, whatever accretions may have been added, his identification with justice par excellence.

Mr. E. G. Hardy, in *Pliny's Correspondence with Trajan*, emphasizes 'the double aspect of Trajan's rescript, which, while it theoretically condemned the Christians, practically gave them a certain security'. Hence, as he advances, 'the different views which have since been taken of it; but by most of the Church writers, and perhaps on the whole with justice, it has

correct form of the name, found in the pages of the Aeneid a true Trojan who was conspicuously just. Even so, the poet of Erkenwald, who is obviously keenly interested in the Brutus story, acclaims the righteousness of the pagan judge of the New Troy.

It is of no little interest to note that the earliest record of the Trajan legend belongs to this country; and is found in the oldest extant life of St. Gregory written in Latin by a monk of Whithy, probably about 713. This long lost life of the great apostle of the English was known to Bede and to the early biographers of Gregory, namely Paulus Diaconus and Johannes Diaconus, though later lost. Extant only in one manuscript, preserved at St. Gall, it was rediscovered by Paul Ewald in 1886, and was fully printed for the first time by Cardinal Gasquet in 1904.1 Consequently, Gaston Paris, writing on the legend of Trajan in 1878, and Arturo Graf, dealing with the same theme in 1889, did not have before them this most valuable document, and they often refer to the lost Anglo-Saxon legend. Professor Hulbert, writing in 1919, still speaks of the life of Paulus Diaconus as the earliest form of the story. The interesting point, however, is that the Monk of Whitby, evidently doubting the orthodoxy of the miracle, refers it to the Romans, 'quidam quoque de nostris dicunt narratum a Romanis', whilst, as Cardinal Gasquet points out, and as is often

been regarded as favourable, and as rather discouraging persecution than legalizing it '(p. 63). In Rome, the glories of the Trajan Forum served to keep alive pride in his greatness and traditional magnanimity, and stimulated the desire to make him the link between Romans of the faith and their pagan progenitors.

1 A Life of Pope St. Gregory the Great, written by a monk of the monastery of Whitby (probably about A. D. 713., now for the first time fully printed from MS. Gallen 667, by Francis Aidan Gasquet (Abbot-President of the English

Benedictines), Westminster, 1904. See Appendix, p. 49.

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emphasized by earlier ecclesiastics, the Roman John, who had this text before him, says that the doubtful legend belongs to the English church, 'legitur etiam penes easdem Anglorum ecclesias'. The great problem for the Monk of Whitby was summed up in his statement: 'nemo enim sine baptismo Deum videbit unquam'.

The unwillingness readily to accept the miracle of the pagan Trajan's deliverance from hell was due to extreme doubt as to whether the great pope would have been guilty of praying for the unbelieving righteous dead, seeing that in his Moralia 1 he definitely states that the saints do not do this, because they shrink from the merit of their prayer, concerning those whom they already know to be condemned to eternal punishment, being made void before that countenance of the Just Judge. The legend therefore seemed to be inconsistent with Gregory's own words. Accordingly, it was looked on with suspicion, and it is noteworthy that Bede, in his Life of St. Gregory, does not record it, though he knew the Monk of Whitby's Life. All the same, the legend maintained itself; and later, Gregory was represented as having to pay a penalty for his wrong action, even though, as some versions put it, the pope's prayer may merely have alleviated Trajan's pain, and not have freed him from the prison of hell. For praying for a pagan Gregory had to choose one of two penalties, to pass two days (in some versions less) in purgatory, or during all the days of his life to languish in sickness. He chose long sickness in this world rather than the briefest stay in Purgatory.2 This form of the legend is found in Godfrey

¹ Moralia, Lib. xxxiv, cap. 19.

² The preference of long sickness to passing two days in Purgatory is found, without reference to St. Gregory, among mediaeval exempla; v. The Exempla of Jacques de Vitry, ed. T. F. Crane, Folk-Lore Society, 1890, p. cvi.

of Viterbo, Speculum Regum, c. 1152-90,¹ and in the Fiori di Filosofi, formerly attributed to Brunetto Latini, and in the Golden Legend of Jacobus de Voragine (c. 1230 to c. 1298), which was translated into French in the fourteenth century, into English by Caxton in the fifteenth, and which was generally known throughout Europe. The suggestion of this penalty seems to have been inferred from Paul the Deacon's equivocal Latin, and is actually found added at the end of a late manuscript of Gregory's Dialogues.²

This legend of Trajan became almost a test case among mediaeval theologians, on the much debated question whether an infidel could, by any chance, escape from the eternal punishment of hell. St. Thomas Aquinas, in his Summa Theologica, discusses the theme at great length, and seems

¹ The versions of Godfrey of Viterbo's Latin poem on the subject seem to vary, for MS. B.M. Add. 11670 does not give the lines referring to Gregory's penalty. The legend ends with the angel's statement to Gregory after he has made his prayer for Trajan:

'Scis quia non habuit baptismatis ille sigillum. Quomodo cum lacrimis dona neganda petis? Ast, homo [t]u pacis, opus expetis hoc pietatis, Iste modo requiem te lacrimante capit.'

In the margin, however, in the same or a contemporary hand of the fourteenth century, there is a long side-note, which summarizes the story in prose, and ends with the statement 'quia pro pagano orasti, omni tempore in femore claudicabis'. These words seem to be a prose paraphrase of some version from which Gaston Paris quotes the couplet:

'Angelico pulsu femur eius tempore multo Claudicat, et poenae corpore signa tenet.'

The poem is printed from various MSS. in Pertz, Scriptores Germanici, xxii, pp. 21-93; the lines quoted by Gaston Paris do not, however, occur here.

² Baronius, Annales Ecclesiastici, sub. 604, vol. xi, pp. 58-66.

* Summa Theologica, II. ii. 2.7:—'Multis gentilium facta fuit revelatio de Christo...Sibylla etiam praenuntiavit quaedam de Christo...Si qui tamen salvati fuerunt quibus revelatio non fuit facta, non fuerunt salvati absque fide Mediatoris. Quia etsi non habuerunt fidem explicatam, habuerunt tamen fidem implicatam in divina providentia, credentes Deum esse liberatorem hominum secundum modos sibi placitos et secundum

to be of opinion, with others who attempted to deal with the problem from a strict theological standpoint, that Gregory's prayers might have brought Trajan to life, and given him thus the chance by merit and grace of escaping; or, otherwise, that the soul of Trajan was not freed from eternal punishment, but that the punishment was held in suspense for a time, namely, till the Day of Judgement.¹ Elsewhere he suggests that Trajan was predestined to be saved by Gregory's prayers. ¹

Perhaps the oldest reference to the grave being opened, and the soul coming back to the body and being entrusted to St. Gregory, is to be found in the *Kaiserchronik*, the Middle High German history of Roman and German emperors, belonging to about 1150. Nothing is said there of speech.²

St. Thomas Aquinas seems to have known some such version of the legend wherein Trajan was brought to life, notwithstanding that his cinerary urn was in a chamber below the great column that bore his name in the Forum. Ignoring this some one must have created the story of the discovery of the head and other remains of the emperor. That the tongue should be intact and able to answer the questions put to it by the pope was a natural corollary. The power of speech, indicative of life, made it possible for the resuscitated pagan to be baptized, and thus to pass to grace as a righteous Christian and not as a righteous infidel. It is of interest that St. Thomas Aquinas, in the discussion to which I have referred, quotes from St. John Damascene the legend of

quod aliquibus veritatem cognoscentibus Spiritus revelasset.' This passage is of special interest with reference to Dante, *Paradiso*, Canto xix; *cp.* Canto xx, l. 180, 'O predestinazion'.

¹ St. Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, III, Suppl. Quaestic LXXI,

² Kaiserchronik, ed. H. F. Massmann, Quedlinburg and Leipzig, 1849, ll. 5859-6116.

St. Macharius, who finding by chance a skull, learnt from it in answer to his question that it was the head of a pagan priest, damned in hell, and yet he and others had been helped by the prayer of Macharius. From this St. Thomas goes on to deal with the story of Trajan, which, he notes, is also mentioned by John Damascene (fl. first half of the eighth century) in the same work. There was, accordingly, good precedent for the speaking head of a pagan. That this form of the miracle co-existed with the simpler form found in the early lives of St. Gregory can be inferred from literature subsequent to St. Thomas Aquinas. Dante seems certainly to have in mind some such version of the miracle as is given by his earliest commentator, Jacopo della Lana, who wrote about 1326. It should be noted that in the Fiori di Filozofi, a work formerly attributed to Brunetto Latini, Dante's teacher, St. Gregory is said to have had Trajan's grave opened in consequence of his having heard the story of the emperor's justice to the widow, and to have found that all had turned to earth except the bones and the tongue, which was 'sana e fresca' as of a living man.2 By this evidence Gregory recognized the emperor's justice, wept for pity, and prayed to God that He would free him and take him from the pain of hell. An angel came, and told him that his prayer had been heard, but because he had asked this boon against reason the choice of punishment was imposed upon him. But Trajan was freed from the pains of hell, and went to Paradise through his own justice and through Gregory's prayers. Applying St. Thomas Aquinas's view of pre-

1 See Appendix, p. 51.

Though it is stated that the miracle of the tongue in the Fiori is found in the Speculum Sequem of Godfrey of Viterbo, the incident is not found in the poem as printed in Pertz, but in certain MSS, there is a prose addition where it is stated that the tongue appeared fresh as that of a living man.

destination to some version differing in treatment from the story in the Fiori, where not only were the bones discovered, but life was vouchsafed to them, Dante emphasizes that 'the glorious soul [of Trajan] returned to the flesh, where it abode short space, believed in Him who had the power to aid it, and believing, kindled into so great a flame of very love, that at the second death it was worthy to come unto this mirth', of Paradise. And the poet explains that this return of the soul into the bones was the reward of 'living hope, which had put might into the prayers made unto God to raise him up, that his will [i.e. Trajan's] might have power to be moved'. Dante's version of the story was evidently nearer that given by Jacopo della Lana than to that in the Fiori. Della Lana had before him a narrative telling how workmen had discovered bones and a skull, with the tongue fresh and

¹ See above (p. xliii) on St. Thomas Aquinas and predestination. William of Auxerre, c. 1150—c. 1230, in his Sentences seems to have had this view as to the predestination of Trajan. He states as follows: Non est contra iusticiam dei aliquem revocare a statu culpe ad statum gratie in quo mereatur et postea salvetur: sed hoc est contra iusticiam dei aliquid remittere de pena cum nichil remittatur de culpa; nec erat Trajanus damnatus diffinitiva penitus sententia: immo ad vitam revocandus erat precibus beati Gregorii (Bk. IV, tract. 14).

The words 'state of grace' seem to imply baptism, and are so understood by Chacon in his Historia ceu verissima a calumniis multorum vindicata. See Venice edition of 1583, p. 21. William of Auxerre evidently elsewhere emphasizes the point that Trajan was revived, baptized, repeuted of his past deeds, suddenly died, and went to heaven; for Giacone in his work on the legend, Siena, 1595, discusses the improbability of this, and in the literature on the subject William's views are frequently quoted.

² It does not seem to me that the *Fiori* version is taken from the *Speculum Historiale* of Vincent de Beauvais, c. 1190—c. 1264. Though the story of Trajan is given, there is no mention of St. Gregory or of the miracle. In the *Policraticus* of John of Salisbury, c. 1115—80, we have both the story of Trajan's justice and Gregory's intercession, and the warning given to him that such intercession for an infidel should not be repeated; but nothing concerning the discovery of the remains.

intact, how the rumour reached Gregory, how he conjured the head to speak; it told its story, that it was the head of Trajan who was in hell as being a pagan. Thereupon Gregory, learning of Trajan's act of justice to the widow, prayed for him, and Trajan was saved. Dante would hardly have accepted the statement in the *Fiori* and the *Golden Legend* that Gregory was subjected to punishment for his intercession. It is noteworthy that in none of these early versions do we get any distinct mention of the baptism of the resuscitated body.

In pictorial art we have a valuable illustrative document in the famous Berne tapestry, copied from the pictures by Roger van der Weyden, the great Flemish painter, c. 1400-1464. Four pictures, which were later destroyed in the bombardment of the town by the French in 1695, were painted by him for the Hall of Justice in the Town Hall at Brussels. Soon after 1485 he held the position of townpainter. We have here a striking representation of the legend, showing in the first panel Gregory praying, and in the second, the head and tongue of Trajan being submitted to the pope, at whose side is a baptismal ewer. Beneath, an account is given of the purport of the picture, ending with the words, 'cum beatus papa Gregorius rem tam difficilem a Deo suis precibus impetrare meruisset, corpus Trayani iam versum in pulverem reverenter detegens, linguam eius quasi hominis vivi integram adinvenit, quod propter iusticiam quam lingua sua persolvit pie creditur contigisse'. There was evidently a similar painting in the Town Hall of Cologne.1

¹ Cp. Gaston Paris, p. 282. Commendatore Boni gives this and other illustrations. Miss Hibbard, in her article on 'Erkenbald the Belgian', deals excellently with these tapestries in relation to her theory, and adds some useful bibliography. Cp. also Crowe and Cavalcaselle, Early Flemish Painters, 1857.

The Cologne Chronicle 1 describes the painting, and tells how, when Trajan's bones were taken up, the tongue was found as flesh and blood, but as soon as the head had been baptized, resolved to dust. The Cologne picture may well have been copied from the Brussels paintings, if not by Van der Weyden himself. In the history of tapestry the Brussels frescoes hold an important place, having evidently been often reproduced by the 'tapissiers' of Arras. The Bernese tapestries were captured by the Swiss from Charles the Bold in 1476.

A general survey of all these forms indicates the following

main stages of the legend:

- (1) The earliest versions tell how St. Gregory was touched by the story of Trajan's magnanimity in rendering justice to a widow for her slain (or injured) son, though at the moment of her appearing before him he was setting out for war; and how, by the prayer of the pope, the pagan emperor was freed from hell. In this first form of the legend, the pope recalls Trajan's act of justice as he walks through the Trajan Forum. Trajan's magnanimity seems to have been illustrated by some mural sculpture, probably on the Arch of Trajan, though modern authorities are inclined to hold that the supplicating widow was a representation of some province. In some versions it is the emperor's own son who was guilty, and who was given by the emperor to the widow as a just compensation.
 - (2) In the second stage the opening of Trajan's tomb dis-

¹ Massmann dates the Cologne Chronicle which he uses as 1494. It is noteworthy in dealing with the whole story and describing the pictures, that the chronicler says that it was after seeing the Trajan Column and admiring it that Gregory prayed for Trajan, that he might not be lost though he was a heathen. Then, when Gregory had received Divine intimation that his prayer had been granted, the remains were dug up at Rome. The motto on the picture was 'Iustus ego barathro gentilis solvor ab atro.'

closes the remains of a dead body, the skull, with the tongue, being intact. Either this is taken as evidence of Trajan's justice, or the tongue is made to speak. In this case it, in answer to Gregory's bidding, tells that the remains are those of Trajan, and that the emperor, being a pagan, is in hell. It then narrates the story of his act of justice towards the widow, and St. Gregory's prayers, with or without the baptism of the remains, are effective in releasing Trajan from the pains of hell, and gaining for him the reward of the righteous. In other versions, Gregory, either before the discovery or after, recalls the merit of Trajan in his justice towards the widow.

(3) In the next stage, the emperor becomes transformed into an unnamed pagan judge, who had never swerved from justice, and who on that account is allowed to await salvation through baptism; and the legend evidently becomes localized in different places. Thus we have the story recorded ¹ that in Vienna, circa 1200, a head was found, with tongue and lips intact, and, in answer to the bishop's questioning, replied: Ego eram paganus et iudex in hoc loco, nec unquam lingua mea protulit iniquam sententiam, quare etiam mori non possum, donec aqua baptismi renatus, ad coelum evolem, quare propter hoc hanc gratiam apud Deum merui. Baptizato igitur

xlix

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Werner Rolevinck, the German theologian and annalist, author of the popular Fasciculus Temporum (1425-1502) gives this story in ch. 3 of his Latin work De Antiquorum Saxonum Ritu, first printed in 1478, and often subsequently reprinted. Rolevinck is evidently quoting from some annals or historical work or collection of exempla in which this incident is given as happening at Vienna about 1200. He certainly did not invent it, which might have been suspected, had he mentioned it in connexion with Westphalia. The whole passage is of interest, and as the book is rare, I print it in the Appendix. I have no doubt the assignment to about 1200 is due to an attempt to connect the legend with the early history of the Cathedral of St. Stephen, which was originally a twelfthcentury building, though later rebuilt.

capite, statim lingua in favillam corruit, et spiritus ad Dominum evolavit.'

The Transformation of the Trajan Legend to the Miracle of St. Erkenwald. Such a version as this last may well have become localized in London and associated with St. Paul's, though it is strange that, as it seems, it was unknown to Bromyarde, and yet known to the interpolator. Some such Latin record our author may have had before him when he wrote,

'& as þai m[u]kkyde & mynyde, a meruayle þai founden, As 3et in crafty cronecles is kydde þe memorie' (ll. 43-4).

All the same, he certainly knew and availed himself of the widespread Gregory-Trajan story. He further developed the legend, and clad the remains with sumptuous robes, untouched by time, a treatment of his theme derived from the lives of the saints.

Indebted to Bede's Ecclesiastical History for many a hint, he deliberately transferred to the story of the finding of the body of the pagan judge, the account he found in Bede of the translation of St. Cuthbert, when his body, some eleven years after burial, was discovered to be uncorrupted 'quasi adhuc viveret', with its vestments not only whole, but with all their original freshness and marvellous brightness. The bishop was then far away from the church, and the messengers took him some part of the garments. Under the influence of this passage, the English poet has worked his transformation, but his indebtedness to other Latin ecclesiastical histories can be inferred.

¹ Bk. IV, ch. xxx.

² Thus the words found in the Life of St. Erkenwald in Capgrave's Nova Legenda Angliae (ed. Horstmann, i, p. 396), 'et tamen nee filum pallii sepulchro superpositi naturam suam perdidit aut colorem mutavit', remind one of our poet's phrase, 'his colour & his clothe', l. 148; cp. l. 263. It seems to me that one can detect in the poem the evidence of a Latin original, not only in such a phrase as this, but elsewhere, e. g.

The general embellishment was inspired by the love of decorative description that characterized the alliterative poets. The closing lines of the poem, describing how, when the tongue ceased its utterance, 'the blee of the body was black as the mould', and resolved itself into dust, reads like a paraphrase of some such words as those quoted above, that the tongue fell to dust, and the spirit hastened to the Lord.

If the Gregory-Trajan miracle had become localized in London and at St. Paul's, without the names of bishop or judge, as in the case of the Vienna legend, it would have been natural to associate the miracle with St. Erkenwald, more especially at a time when renewed enthusiasn was being stirred for the due observance of the feast-days held in his honour as the most renowned of London's bishops, whose rich shrine was the glory of the cathedral, and an object of veneration far and wide.

The ascription of the miracle to St. Erkenwald may well have been due to our poet. He may have derived the transferred legend of the finding of the head of a pagan judge in the foundations of St. Paul's from some lost record, not widely current, to which small credence was given even by such a collector of exempla as Bromyarde, if he knew of it.

'b' bryst bowne of bin eghen', l. 330; compared with the many phrases expressing outburst of tears, and especially such a phrase as the following from the Life of St. Dunstan, ed. Stubbs, p. 50: 'rore lacrymarum... quas ... Sanctus quoque Spiritus... ex oculorum rivulis potenter elicuit.'

Of course there are reminiscences of the characteristic handling of Exempla and Miracles as found in mediaeval literature. The first line of the poem is obviously imitated from some such opening as 'A londres en angleterre' or its Latin equivalent or its imitation in English. Similarly the idea in 1.43 of the judge not being biassed against the slayer of his father may well have been suggested by the exemplum of charity (not justice, set forth in the widely diffused story of the knight who forgave the slayer of his father, found so often in the Northern Homily Collection. See Carleton Brown, Register of Middle English Religious Verse, vol. ii, p. 152, to which references add MS. Bodl. 3440.

In her article on 'Erkenbald the Belgian', Miss Hibbard deals with the Belgian story of 'Brussels' Brutus', Erkenbaldus de Burban, who was such a lover of justice that he killed his own nephew because of the youth's wickedness towards a maiden. He concealed this action from his confessor. The confessor, his bishop, knew what he had done, and refused to give him the last sacrament.

Nevertheless Erkenbald, pleading that what he had done was in righteousness and dread of God, and not in sin, declared that he betook both body and soul to the holy sacrament, that is, to God Himself; and by a miraele, Almighty God Himself gave him what the bishop had denied.

The name of the hero of this story, as first given in the 'Dialogus Miraculorum' of Caesarius of Heisterbach, c. 1220, is Erkenbaldus de Burban, and the name clearly links the story with the early history of the family of the Bourbons, which took its name from Bourbon l'Archambault (i.e. Erkenbald), a town of an important lordship in the tenth century, Erkenbald being a common name of these Bourbon princes in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. In the manuscripts in which the miracle is related, Bourbon suffers many corruptions.

I cannot agree with Miss Hibbard when she maintains that there was a wide diffusion on the continent of the legend of St. Erkenwald, and that this fact 'may, perhaps, account for a surprising shift of names that took place even in the Belgian homeland of the Erkenbald legend', i. e. she holds that on the continent the name Erkenbald of the Bourbon chief had been transferred to the bishop of the story, and had still further been changed, under the influence of the stories of St. Erkenwald into Erkenwald. If this were so, the fact might well have an important bearing on the genesis of the present poem; but unfortunately the evidence adduced by Miss Hibbard tells the other way. She quotes from the Alphabetum Narrationum,

a collection of tales, probably by Arnold of Liège, c. 1308, where following a Trajan story of justice there is a story of a judge 'named Bormar, who killed his nephew for just cause, and sent for Bishop Erkenwaldus to give him absolution. The whole story, including the final miracle of the Host, is identical in detail with that told by Caesarius, but it is said to be drawn from an account by Bishop Erkenwaldus himself.' Miss Hibbard has found this version of the story in the fifteenth-century English translation of the Alphabetum Narrationum entitled An Alphabet of Tales, and has assumed, although a glance at the foot-note would have saved her from the blunder, that the English translation is an accurate rendering of the Latin. It is the English fifteenth-century translator who misunderstood the original 'Herkyndaldus de Bornayre, vir nobilis', and translated it 'Herkenwaldus tellis of ane bat hight Bormar, bat was a noble man'. A similar mistranslation later on makes 'Herbinbaldus' the bishop's name.2 Accordingly, interesting as it may be to know of the legend of Erkenbald the Belgian, so often, by a striking coincidence, brought into connexion as illustrating justice, with the exemplum of Trajan, no evidence has been adduced tending to demonstrate that the miracle of Erkenbald influenced the attribution to St. Erkenwald of the version of the Trajanstory localized at St. Paul's. All the same, as Miss Hibbard has well brought out, the well-nigh identical forms of the two names, and the treatment of the Trajan and Erkenbald stories as exempla of justice, should not be lost sight of.3

¹ Ed. Mrs. M. M. Banks, Early English Text Society, 127, pp. 287-9.

² 'Episcopus uocatus cum sacris aduenit. Herbinbaldus, cum multis lacrimis et cordis contricione, omnia peccata sua confessus est', becomes '& þan he sent for þe bisshop Herkenwaldus, and he come with þ' sacrament & shrafe hym, & howseld hym not, & he made grete sorow & had grete contricion in his harte for his syn.'

³ There is no doubt that in England Erkinbald the Bourbon became

The Poem Contrasted with the Treatment of Trajan in 'Piers Plowman'. From what has been said above, our poem may well be described as a mediaeval exemplum of justice. The central figure is not the saintly bishop, but the pagan judge, who, never swerving from justice, was at his death honoured as 'king of keen justices', and was destined, by grace, through baptism, to receive merit for his just dooms, and by a divine miracle, to pass from 'the deep lake' to the solemn feast 'where those are refreshed who have hungered after right'. It is as if our poet were anxious to enforce the lesson of justice at a time when Meed, self-interest, or bias, too often tampered with Right. At the same time, his attitude towards baptism as essential for salvation is conservative and orthodox. From many points of view it is of interest to compare the present poem with the references to Trajan in the Vision of Piers Plowman. In the B and C versions of the Vision of Piers Plowman, in Passus III of 'Dowel', we have Troianus, i. e. Trajan, the true knight, telling his story:

'How he was ded and dampned to dwellen in pyne,
For an vncristene creature,—" clerkis wyten the sothe,
That al the clergye vnder Cryste ne mizte me cracche fro
helle,
But onliche loue and leaute and my lawful domes".'

(B. xi. 137-40.)

The writer of the B version, as well as the reviser who was

Erkenwald. Thus Henry VIII had among his tapestries in the Tower, as Miss Hibbard points out, 'i pece of riche arras of king Erkinwalde'. The name, by the way, puzzled the editor of Warton's History of English Poetry (cp. vol. ii, p. 192, of the edition of 1871), who implies that 'king' ought to have been 'bishop'. The tapestry was no doubt a reproduction of Van der Weyden's picture at Brussels, which immediately followed that of Trajan.

¹ Cp. Patience 19-20:

'pay ar happen also pat hungeres after ryst, For pay schal frely be refete ful of alle gode.' responsible for the C version, whether the same or a different author, evidently knew the Trajan ¹ story as current in England in its simple form of Gregory's successful intercession by prayer ² for the pagan emperor. The B version refers directly to 'the Legende Sanctorum' as a source. The author was evidently familiar with the theological discussions on the subject, which he dismisses with an exclamation placed on the lips of Trajan, 'zee! baw for bokes', and with characteristic boldness declares that Trajan, that Saracen, was saved, not through prayer of a Pope, but through his pure truth (B. xi. 150; cp. C. xiii. 74–99). The reviser of C evidently shrinks from so audacious a statement. A comparison of the two versions is full of interest; the subtle changes in C are noteworthy.³

In B. xii, and the corresponding passage in C. xv, the subject is again discussed, where Imaginative instructs the dreamer on the problem of whether baptism could be dispensed with for salvation, and points out that,

'Trajan was a true knight, and took never Christendom, And he is saved, saith the book, and his soul in heaven. There is baptism of font, and baptism in blood-shedding, And through fire is baptism, and all is firm belief. Advenit ignis divinus, non comburens sed illuminans.' 4

¹ It is noteworthy that the Vision of Piers Plowman, as so many Middle English writings, gives the form as 'Trojanus', though the author of C has both 'Trojanus' and 'Trajanus'.

² The legend in Middle English is frequently found in MSS. of the Northern Homilies (see Carleton Brown, Register of Middle English Religious Verse, vol. ii, p. 42). It is often referred to by Gower, and in Wintoun's Chronicle is given at great length (vol. iii, pp. 286-96, ed. Amours, Scottish Text Society). For versions of the story in MSS. of mediaeval exempla, see Catalogue of Romances in the Dept. of MSS., British Museum, vol. iii, J. A. Herbert.

⁸ See Appendix, p. 56.

⁴ Piers Plowman, C. xv. 205-8; cp. Matt. iii. 11.

In B. x. 383, and the corresponding passage in C. xii, the belief that

Probable Date, Occasion, and Authorship. But while the poet's efforts have been directed mainly to the pagan judge as an exemplar of justice, it is in honour of St. Erkenwald that the poem must have been composed. The poet's obvious intention is clearly to associate himself with the cult of St. Erkenwald at St. Paul's Cathedral. The outstanding date in connexion with the observance of the feast-days of the saint is the year 1386, to which allusion has already been made.

There is no evidence of date to be derived from the poem itself. Its tone tends to confirm the view that it was composed for some special occasion. Such external evidence as one can suggest would make such a date as 1386 most probable.

The poem in its plan, its vocabulary, its general style and method, and its quatrain arrangement, recalls *Cleanness* and *Patience*. The enumeration of the christianized heathen temples seems a reminiscence of the gods prayed to by the heathen sailors in *Patience*, the ceremonial with which the soul of the judge is received at the heavenly feast is the same as that observed at the marriage feast in *Cleanness*.

Solomon and Aristotle were both in hell is contested, and it is noteworthy that in the passage concerning Trajan one MS. interpolates some lines concerning Job, the paynim, and Aristotle being both saved, because of their holy life.

- ¹ E.g. its use of such a word as 'norne', which occurs three times in Cleanness and four times in Gawain, and is not found elsewhere. The suggestion that the author is to be identified with the writer of the alliterative fragment on Thomas à Becket (E.E.T.S. 42) has absolutely nothing to commend it.
- 2 Cf. 1. 20 with Patience 167, To Mahoun & to Mergot, be Mone & pe Sunne.
 - ³ Cf. 11. 337-8 with Cleanness 91-2:

Ful manerly wyth marchal mad for to sitte, As he wat; dere of de-gre dressed his seete.

Occasionally we are reminded, too, of some possible knowledge of Pearl on the part of the author, and this not only by the mention of 'many a precious pearl' around the hem of the judge's robe, which might well have symbolic connotations, but also by more subtle points of contact. The central theme of Pearl is the regality—the heavenly crown—granted by grace, after baptism, to an innocent child. It is further enunciated in Pearl that, according to Holy Writ, the righteous man shall 'climb the lofty hill and rest within the holy place'. In the present poem the problem of the salvation of the righteous seems to take up the question as left in Pearl. Our poet, treating the story of the pagan righteous judge who was allowed to await baptism, evidently emphasizes his view that the righteous in works are received into the Kingdom, and have their due place at the feast, after the waters of baptism have fallen upon them.

In my introductory study to Cleanness, I have endeavoured to show that the terminus a quo for the date of that poem must be 1373, and I think we may safely assume that the present poem is not earlier than the companion poems, Cleanness and Patience. Its diction is simpler than that of those poems, it lacks their strength and intensity; but this sign of weakness night be due to its being composed for some special occasion, and not a theme chosen by the poet and slowly elaborated. If not the work of the poet of Patience and Cleanness, Erkenwald must be due to some disciple who very cleverly caught the style of his master.

Even in his method of authenticating, as it were, his work by adducing some extant authority—'as yet in crafty chronicles is recorded the memory'1—even in that he reminds one of the poet of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, who

> ¹ 1. 44. lvii

asserts that he is about to tell his romance as he had heard it:

'As it is set full real
In story stiff and strong,
Locked in letters leal,
In land so has been long.' 1

'Erkenwald' specifically a London Poem. There is one aspect of this alliterative poem of Erkenwald that gives it almost a special interest, namely, that its place of origin must have been the city of London. The writer of the poem was no mere casual visitor to London, but one who, identified with the interests of the city, was cognizant of its life, and took pride in its history and the visible monuments of its greatness. In dealing with his far-off theme of the Saxon saint and the pagan judge who 'justified' the town in the days of King Belinus, the poet is thinking of the St. Paul's of his own day, not only with reference to the glorious shrine of the saint, and to the efforts to establish the due observance of his feast-days, but also to the position of the Cathedral as the centre of civic and almost of national life, the scene of so many stirring episodes, the cathedral church of the metropolis, famed for the grandeur and beauty of its service, to which he alludes when stating that 'many gay lords were assembled there when, in full pontificals, with choir accompaniment, the bishop sang the High Mass'. He then adds most significantly as a parenthesis, 'even as the nobles of the realm repair thither oft'.2

Yet the alliterative metre of the poem, and the dialect in which it is written, could not well have been chosen by a poet London-born and London-bred. A Londoner could not, or

¹ Gawain, 11. 33-6.

² Il. 129-35. In Canon Benham's *Old St. Paul's*, 1902, there are interesting reproductions from MSS. of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in the British Museum, of a Pontifical Mass, and of organ and trumpets.

would not, 'rim-ram-ruff'. It may be assumed that the author of Erkenwald belonged by birth to some district in the 'West', although fortune ultimately made him a denizen of London. It is indeed noteworthy that London seems to have had a stimulating effect on some of the most characteristic of the alliterative poets of the period. In perhaps the earliest of these poems, the social political alliterative pamphlet of Winner and Waster, belonging to the year 1352, the author of which is avowedly a 'Western man', we have a personal knowledge of London life, its social amenities, extravagances, attractions, and dangers. The author or authors of the Vision of Piers Plowman knew London intimately; not only are there references to St. Paul's and Westminster, but the meaner side of London life is revealed in the confession of Gluttony, Clarice of Cock Lane, Godfrey of Garlickhithe, and the other characters typical of the London low life of the time. We learn by combining the two references C. vi. 1-2 and B. xviii. 426 (C. xxi. 473), how the author (alliteratively) dwelt in Cornhill with Kit, his wife, and Calote, his daughter, clothed as a Lollard, among the Lollards of London, and lived 'in London and on London both '.1 The more genial poet of Erkenwald must similarly have been settled in London for not a few years. His outlook had nothing of the gloomy denunciatory character of the prophet-poet of the Vision. If he lived on London as well as in London, it was in some comfortable position that made life easy, and one thinks of the possibilities of the Church and the Law. Had he found a chantry at St. Paul's, or even some higher position there, a greater place would, in my opinion, have been given in Erkenwald to the bishop whose saintliness was commemorated therein. The poet, however, seems more bent on glorifying the judge as the embodiment of justice, and in paying a tribute to the ideal man of law. It

is dangerous to theorize where there is no clear evidence, but if one had to choose between the two great professions of the time, one would perforce make choice of the legal calling as that of the author of our poem. One fondly plays with the fancy that Chaucer's 'philosophical Strode' may have been concerned. If my identification is correct, Strode, philosopher and poet, was Common Sergeant of the City of London. In 1386, shortly after the Common Sergeant had resigned or been ousted from his office, and while he was still retained as standing counsel for the city, he may have helped forward the efforts of Bishop Braybroke, who in that year made a strong endeavour to re-establish the feast-days of St. Erkenwald. The poem seems to me to be the work of a hand that was losing its cunning. It is such as the author of Cleanness and Patience might well have written when his powers were faltering. Ralph Strode, the Common Sergeant, died in 1387. He had held that office between 1375 and 1385. He had been Chaucer's neighbour for a time, living over the gate of Aldersgate, while Chaucer dwelt over Aldgate. The dedication of Troilus about 1382 to the 'moral Gower and the philosophical Strode' is evidently to two poets. We have Strode's logical and philosophical treatises to attest the truth of the epithet 'philosophical', but the author of these extant treatises would hardly have evoked from Chaucer such a dedication as is implied in the lines at the end of Troilus. Even as Chaucer himself was styled 'the philosophical', so we may assume that the epithet bestowed by him on Strode, with the request to correct any error that might be found in the poem, implied poetical achievement on the part of Strode, as was clearly the case in his dedicatory reference on the same occasion to his other great contemporary and friend, the 'moral Gower'.

The contemporary Letter Books of the City of London 1

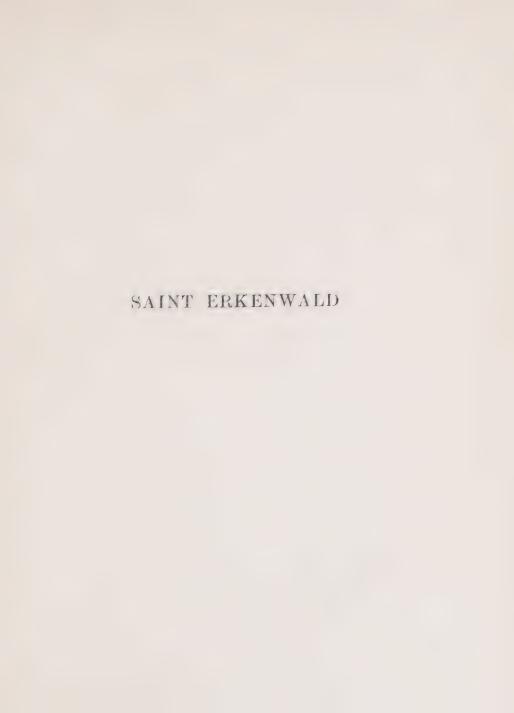
show how the fortunes of Ralph Strode, Common Sergeant. were closely bound up with the municipal struggles of Nicholas Brembre, his friend, and John of Northampton, the rival Mayors, whose tragic stories well exemplify the close connexion of the City of London at that time with the great political issues of the State. The vicissitudes of Northampton are in English literature associated with the ignominious Thomas Usk, author of the pseudo-Chaucerian prose work entitled The Testament of Love, wherein the author is taught by Love how to win the favour of the Margaret Pearl—the pearl beyond all price. Traitor to his master, Northampton, he had joined the party of Brembre, who had become Mayor in 1383, having previously been Collector of Customs when Chaucer was Controller of Customs. But Brembre, as the devoted friend of King Richard, became involved in the political struggles affecting the monarch, and in 1388 both Brembre and Usk paid the penalty of death. Strode had died the previous year. But the stirring events that culminated with the cruel execution of his friend Brembre had been moving men's minds for years before, and it must have seemed to many that the course of justice was too often affected by political bias and personal aims. Amid such conditions arose this poem of the ideal pagan judge, who in far-off times, when London was New Troy, ruled the city 'under a noble duke'. To the minds of the poet and his contemporaries, however. New Troy and its noble duke were not really so remote as might appear, for it is significant that after the execution of Brembre, when his sentence had to be justified, it was alleged against him, among other charges, that he aimed at restoring

ed. R. Sharpe, 1907; see also London and the Kingdom, R. Sharpe, vol. i, 1894.

¹ Ed. Skeat, Works of Chaucer, vol. vii. On Brembre, Usk, and Northampton, see Dict. Nat. Biog. and bibliographies appended.

to London the old name of Troy, and at creating himself Duke of that name—'nomen novum scilicet Parvae Troiae, cuius urbis et nominis ipse Dux creari statuit et nominari'.

¹ Historia Anglicana, T. Walsingham, ed. H. T. Riley, 1864, vol. ii, p. 174.





DE ERKENWALDO

[PROLOGUE.]

[F. 72b] t London in Englonde nost fulle longe [tyme]
Sythen Crist suffride on crosse, & Cristendome stablyde,
Ther was a byschop in pat burghe, blessyd & sacryd,—

Saynt Erkenwolde, as I hope, hat holy mon hatte.

- 5 In his tyme in pat ton po temple alder-grattyst Was drawen don pat one dole to dedifie new, For hit hethen had bene in Hengyst dawes, pat po Saxones vnsat haden sende hyder.
- 9 pai bete oute po Bretons, & bro3t hom in-to Wales, & peruertyd alle po pepul pat in pat place dwellide; pen wos this reame renaide mony ronke 3eres, Til Saynt Austyn in-to Sandewiche was sende fro po pope.
- pen prechyd he here po pure faythe & plantyd po trouthe, & convertyd alle po communiates to Cristendame† newe; He turnyd temples pat tyme pat temyd to po deuelle, & clansyd hom in Cristes nome, & kyrkes hom callid.
- 17 He hurlyd owt hor ydols & hade hym in sayntes, & chaungit cheuely hor nomes, & chargit hom better: pat ere was of Appolyn is now of Saynt Petre; Mahon to Saynt Margrete, oper to Maudelayne.

1

- p° Synagoge of p° Sonne was sett to oure Lady; Jubiter & Jono to Jhesu oper to James; So he hom dedifiet & dyght alle to dere halowes, pat ere wos sett of Sathanas in Saxones tyme.
- 25 Now pat London is neuenyd hatte po New Troie; po metropol & po mayster-ton hit euermore has bene; po mecul mynster perinne a maghty deuel aght, & po title of po temple bitan was his name;
- 29 For he was dryghtyn derrest of ydols praysid, And po solempnest of his sacrifices in Saxon londes: pe thrid temple hit wos tolde of Triapolitanes; By alle Bretaynes bonkes were bot othire twayne.

[I.]

- Now of his Augustynes art is Erkenwolde hischop
 At love London ton, & the laghe teches;
 Syttes semely in he sege of Saynt Paule mynster,
 hat was he temple Triapolitan, as I tolde are.
- 37 Den was hit abatyd & beten don, & buggyd efte new,
 A noble note for po nones, & New Werke hit hatte;
 Mony a mery mason was made per to wyrke,
 Harde stones for to hewe with eggit toles;
- Mony grubber in grete po grounde for to seche,
 pat po fundement on fyrst shuld po fote halde;
 & as pai m[u]kkyde & mynyde, a meruayle pai founden,
 As 3et in crafty cronecles is kydde po memorie.

- 45 For as pai dy3t & dalfe so depe in-to pe erthe, pai founden fourmyt on a flore a ferly faire toumbe; Hit was a throghe of thykke ston, thryuandly hewen, With gargeles garnysht a-boute, alle of gray marbre.
- The † spe[k]e of be spelunke bat spradde hit o-lofte Was metely made of be marbre & menskefully planede, & be bordure enbelicit with bryst golde lettres;

 Bot roynyshe were be resones bat ber on row stoden.
- 53 Fulle verray were po vigures, per auisyde hom mony,
 Bot alle muset hit to mouthe & quat hit mene shulde;

 [F. 73] Mony clerke in pat clos, with crownes ful brode,
 per besiet hom a-boute nost, to brynge hom in wordes.
 - 57 Quen tithynges token to pe ton of pe toumbe-wonder, Mony hundrid hende men highide pider sone; Burgeys boghit per-to, bedels ande othire, & mony a mesters-mon of maners dyuerse.
 - 61 Laddes laften hor werke & lepen piderwardes,
 Ronnen radly in route with ryngande noyce;
 per commen pider of alle kynnes so kenely mony,
 pat as alle pe worlde were pider walon with in a hondequile.
 - 65 Quen p° maire with his meynye pat meruaile aspied, By assent of p° sextene, p° sayntuare pai kepten; Bede vnlouke p° lidde, & lay hit by-side; pai wolde loke on pat lome quat lengyd withinne.
 - 69 Wyst werke-men with hat wenten her-tille;
 Putten prises herto, pinchid one-vnder;
 Kaghten by he corners with crowes of yrne;
 And were he lydde neuer so large, hai laide hit by sone.

- 73 Bot pen wos wonder to wale on wehes pat stoden,
 That my3t not come to to-knowe a quontyse strange;
 So was pe glode with in gay, al with golde payntyde,
 & a blisfulle body opon pe both[um] lyggid,—
- 77 Araide on a riche wise, in rialle wedes,
 Al with glisnande golde his gowne wos hemmyd,
 With mony a precious perle picchit ber-on,
 & a gurdille of golde bigripide his mydelle;
- 81 A meche mantel on-lofte with menyuer furrit, po clothe of camelyn ful clene, with cumly bordures; & on his coyfe wos kest a coron ful riche, & a semely septure sett in his honde.
- 85 Als wemles were his wedes, with-outen any tecche, Oper of moulynge, oper of motes, opir moght-freten, & als bry3t of hor blee, in blysnande hewes, As þai hade 3epely in þat 3orde bene 3isturday shapen;
- 89 & als freshe hym p° face & the fleshe nakyde, Bi his eres & bi his hondes pat openly shewid, With ronke rode as p° rose, & two rede lippes, As he in sounde sodanly were slippide open slepe.
- 93 per was spedeles space to spyr vschon oper Quat body hit myst be pat buried wos ther; How longe had he per layne, his lere so vnchaungit, & al his wede vnwemmyd,—pus ylka weghe askyd:
- 97 'Hit my3t not be bot suche a mon in my[n]de stode longe; He has ben kynge of þis kithe, as couthely hit semes, He lyes doluen þus depe; hit is a derfe wonder Bot summe segge couthe say þat he hym sene hade.'

- Noper by title, ne token, ne by tale noper,
 pat† wos breuyt in b[rut], ne in bok[e] notyde,
 pat euer mynnyd suche a mo[n], more ne lasse.
- of pat buriede body al po bolde wonder;
 po primate with his prelacie was partyd fro home;
 In Esex was Ser Erkenwolde, an abbay to visite.
- Tulkes tolden hym po tale [& po] troubulle in po pepul, And suche a cry aboute a cors crakit euer-more;

 The bischop sende hit to blynne, by bedels & lettres, Ande buskyd piderwarde by-tyme on his blonke after.

3 b]

- 113 By pat he come to pe kyrke, kydde of Saynt Paule, Mony hym metten on pat meere, po meruayle to telle; He passyd in-to his palais & pes he comaundit, & deuoydit fro po d[outh]e, & ditte po durre after.
- 117 pe derke nyst ouer-drofe, & day-belle ronge;
 And Ser Erkenwolde was vp in pe vghten ere pen,
 pat wel neghe al pe nyst hade na[i]tyd his houres,
 To biseche his souerayn, of his swete grace,
 121 To youche-safe to reuele hym hit, by a-vis[i]on or elles;
- 'paghe I be vnworthi', al wepande he sayde,
 'Thurghe [pi] deere debonerte, digne hit, my Lorde,
 In confirmynge pi cristen faithe, fulsen me to kenne
- % so longe he grette after grace, þat he graunte hade,
 An ansuare of þe Holy Goste, & after-warde hit dawid.

 Mynster-dores were makyd opon, quen matens were
 songen;
- \mathfrak{p}_{e} byschop hym shope solemply to synge \mathfrak{p}_{e} heghe masse.

pe prelate in pontificals was prestly atyride;
Manerly with his ministres per masse he begynnes
Of Spiritus Domini for his spede, on sutile wise,
With queme questis of per quere, with ful quaynt notes.

Mony a gay grete lorde was gedrid to herken hit (As po rekenest of po reame repairen pider ofte), Tille cessyd was po seruice, & sayde po later ende, pen heldyt fro pe autere alle po heghe gynge.

p° prelate passide on p° playn, per plied to hym lordes; As riche reuestid as he was, he rayked to p° toumbe; Men vnclosid hym p° cloyster with clustrede keies; Bot pyne wos with p° grete prece pat passyd hym after.

. .

The byschop come to be burynes, him barones besyde; pe maire with mony masti men, & macers before hym; pe dene of be dere place deuysit al on fyrst,

145 pe fyndynge of bat ferly with fynger he mynte.

Lo, lordes,' quop pat lede, 'suche a lyche here is, Has layn loken here on-loghe, how longe is vnknawen; & 3et his colour & his clothe has cast no defaute, Ne his lire, ne po lome pat he is layde inne.

per is no lede opon lyfe of so longe age
pat may mene in his mynde pat suche a mon regnyd,
Ne noper his nome ne his note nourne of one speche;
Queper mony porer in his place is putte into graue,
pat merkid is in oure martilage his mynde for euer.

& we have our librarie la[i]tid pes longe seven dayes, Bot one cronicle of pis kynge con we never fynde; He has non layne here so longe, to loke hit by kynde, To malte so out of memorie, bot meruayle hit were.'

'pou says sobe,' quob be segge but sacrid was byschop,
'Hit is meruaile to men, but mountes to litelle
Towarde be prouidens of be Prince but Paradis weldes,
Quen hym luste to vnlouke be leste of his mystes.

Bot quen matyd is monnes my3t, & his mynde passyde,
And al his resons are to-rent, & redeles he stondes,

ben lettes hit hym ful litelle to louse wyt a fynger

pat alle pe hondes vnder heuen halde my3t neuer.

pere-as creatures crafte of counselle oute swarues,
[F. 74] pe comforthe of pe creatore byhoues pe c[reat]ure take.

- To seche be sothe at oure-selfe, see se ber no bote; Bot gl[e]w we alle opon Godde, & his grace aske, pat careles is of counselle, [vs] comforthe to sende.
- I shal auay 30w so verrayly of vertues his,

 Dat 3e may leue vpon longe pat he is lord mysty,

 & fayne 30ur talent to fulfille, if 3e hym frende leues.'

[11.]

- Then he turnes to be toumbe & talkes to be coree;
 Lyftande vp his eghe-lyddes, he loused suche wordes:
 'Now, lykhame, pat b[us] lies, layne bou no lenger,
 Sythen Jhesus has iuggit to-day his ioy to be schewyde!
- As he was bende on a beme, quen he his blode schedde,
 As hou hit wost wyterly, & we hit wele leuen,
 Ansuare here to my sawe, councele no trouthe!
- Is Sithen we wot not qwo hou art, witere vs hi-selwen, In worlde quat weghe hou was, & quy how hus ligges, How longe hou has layne here, & quat laghe hou vsyt, Queher art hou ioyned to ioy oher iuggid to pyne.'
- Quen po segge hade pus sayde, & syked per-after,
 po bryst body in po burynes bray[p]ed a litelle,
 & with a drery dreme he dryues owte wordes
 purghe s[um] lyf[ly] goste, lant of hym pat al redes:—
- 'Bisshop,' quop pis ilke body, 'p' boode is me dere,
 I may not bot boghe to p' bone for bothe myn eghen;
 †pe name pat pou neuenyd has & nournet me after
 Al heuen & helle heldes to, & erthe bitwene.
- 197 Fyrst to say the pe sothe quo my selfe were,—
 One pe vnhapnest hathel pat euer on erthe 3ode,
 Neuer kynge ne cayser ne 3et no kny3t nothyre,
 Bot a lede of pe laghe pat pen pis londe vsit.
- I was committed & made a mayster-mon here,
 To sytte vpon sayd causes pis cite I zemyd,
 Vnder a prince of parage of paynymes laghe,
 & vche segge pat him sewide pe same faythe trowid.

- 205 pe lengthe of my lyinge here, pat is a l[app]id date
 Hit to m[ut]he to any mon to make of a nombre:
 After pat Brutus pis burghe had buggid on fyrste
 No3t bot [aght] hundred 3ere per aghtene wontyd—
- Before pat kynned 30ur Criste by cristen acounte

 [pre hundred] 3ere & pritty mo & 3et threnen aght,

 I was [o]n eire† of an oye[r] in po New Troie

 In po regne of po riche kynge put rewlit vs pen,
- The bolde Breton Ser Belyn,—Ser Berynge was his brothire—

 Mony one was be busmare boden hom bitwene
 For hor wrakeful werre, quil hor wrathe lastyd,—
 pen was I iuge here enioynyd in gentil lawe.'
- Quil he in spelunke bus spake ber sprange in be pepulle In al bis worlde no worde, ne wakenyd no noice, Bot al as stille as be ston stoden & listonde, With meche wonder forwrast, & wepid ful mony.
- The bisshop biddes pat body, 'biknowe po cause,
 Sithen pou was kidde for no kynge, quy pou po cron weres.

 Quy haldes pou so heghe in honde pe septre,
 & hades no londe of lege men, ne life ne lym aghtes?'
- [F. 74b] 225 'Dere ser,' quop pe dede body, 'deuyse pe I thenke,
 Al was hit neuer my wille pat wroght pus hit were;
 I wos deputate & domesmon vnder a duke noble,
 & in my power pis place was putte al to-geder.
 - I iustifiet pis ioly toun on gentil wise, & euer in fourme of gode faithe, more pen fourty wynter. po folke was felonse & fals, & frowarde to reule; I hent harmes ful ofte, to holde hom to rist.

- Bot for wothe ne wele ne wrathe ne drede,

 Ne for maystrie ne for mede ne for no monnes aghe,

 I remewit neuer fro po rizt, by reson myn awen,

 For to dresse a wrange dome, no day of my lyue.
- Declynet neuer my consciens, for couetise on erthe, In no gynful iugement no iapes to make, Were a renke neuer so riche, for reuerens sake, Ne for no monnes manas, ne meschefe ne routhe.
- Non gete me fro he heghe gate to glent out of ry3t,
 Als ferforthe as my faithe confourmyd my hert;
 paghe had bene my fader bone, I bede hym no wranges,
 Ne fals fauour to my fader, haghe felle hym be hongyt.
- 245 & for I was ryztwis & reken, & redy of be laghe, Quen I deghed, for dul denyed alle Troye; Alle menyd my dethe, be more & the lasse; & bus to bounty my body bai buriet in golde,—
- Cladden me for b° curtest bat courte couthe ben holde,
 In mantel for b° mekest & monlokest on benche;
 Gurden me for† gouern[ance b°] graythist of Troie,
 Furrid me for b° fynest of faithe [ber] withinne.
- For po honour of myn honeste of heghest enprise,
 pai coronyd me po kidde kynge of kene iustises,
 p[at] euer was tronyd in Troye oper trowid euer shulde;
 And for I rewardid euer rist, pai raght me the septre.
- pe bisshop baythes hym zet, with bale at his hert, paghe men menskid him so, how hit myzt worthe pat his clothes were so elene; 'in cloutes, me thynkes, Hom burde haue rotid & bene rent in ratter longe sythen.

- pi body may be enbawmyd, hit bashis me noght pat hit thar ryne ne rote ne no ronke wormes;

 Bot pi coloure ne pi clothe, I know in no wise

 How hit myst lye by monnes lore & last so longe.
- Ne no monnes counselle my clothe has kepyd vnwemmyd;

 Bot po riche kynge of reson, pat rist euer alowes,
 & loues al po lawes lely pat longen to trouthe;
- 269 & moste he menskes men for mynnynge of riztes, pen for al pe meritorie medes pat men on molde vsen; & if renkes for rizt pus me arayed has, He has lant me to last pat loues ryzt best.'
- '3ea, bot sayt bou of bi saule,' ben sayd be bisshop.
 'Quere is ho stablid & stadde, if bou so strest wroghtes?

 He bat rewardes vehe a renke as he has rist seruyd

 Myst euel for-go the to gyfe of his grace summe brawnche.
- For as he says in his sothe psalmyde writtes:

 "po skilfulle & po vnskathely skelton ay to me."

 For-pi say me of po soule, in sele quere ho wonnes,

 And of po riche restorment pat razt hyr oure Lorde!"
- pen hummyd he pat per lay, & his hedde waggyd, & gefe a gronynge ful grete, & to Godde sayde:—
 'Majty maker of men, thi myghtes are grete, How myjt pi mercy to me amounte any tyme?
- [F.75] 285 Nas I a paynym vnpreste, hat neuer thi plite knewe, Ne h[°] mesure of hi mercy, ne hi mecul vertue, Bot ay a freke faitheles hat faylid hi laghes, hat euer hou, Lord, wos louyd in? Allas, he harde stoundes!

- I was non of he nombre hat how with noy boghtes
 With he blode of thi body vpon he blo rode;
 Quen how herghedes helle-hole, & hentes hom her-oute,
 he here.
- 293 & per sittes my soule pat se may n[o] fyrre,
 Dwynande in pe derke dethe, pat dyzt vs oure fader,
 Adam, oure alder, pat ete of pat appulle
 pat mony a plyztles pepul has poysned for euer.
- 397 Be were entouched with his te[c]he & t[o]ke in pogl[e]tte,
 Bot mendyd with a medecyn, 3e are made for to lyuye,—
 pat is fulloght in fonte, with faitheful bileue;
 & pat han we myste alle merciles, myselfe & my soule.
- Quat wan we with oure wele-dede pat wroghtyn ay rist, Quen we are dampnyd dulfully into be depe lake, & exiled fro pat soper so, pat solempne fest, Per richely hit arne refetyd pat after right hungride?
- 305 My soule may sitte per in sorow, & sike ful colde,
 Dy[m]ly in pat derke dethe, per dawes neuer morowen,
 Hungrie in-with helle-hole, & herken after meeles,
 Longe er ho pat soper se, oper segge hyr to lathe.'
- pus dulfully pis dede body deuisyt hit sorowe,
 pat alle wepyd for woo, po wordes pat herden;
 & po bysshop balefully bere don his eghen,
 pat hade no space to speke, so spakly he 30skyd,
- Til he toke hym a tome, & to po toumbe lokyd,
 To po liche per hit lay, with lauande teres:

 'Oure Lord lene,' quop pat lede, 'pat pou lyfe hades,
 By Goddes leue, as longe as I myst lacche water,

- 317 & cast vpon pi faire cors, & carpe pes wordes,—
 "I folwe po in po Fader nome & his fre Childes
 & of po gracious Holy Goste";—& not one grue lenger.
 pen pof pou droppyd doun dede, hit daungerde me lasse."
- With pat worde pat he warpyd, [of his] wete† eghen [po] teres trillyd adon, & on po toumbe lighten; & one felle on his face, & po freke syked; pen sayd he with a sadde soun, Oure Sauyoure be louyd!
- Now herid be bou, heghe God, & bi hende Moder, & blissid be bat blisful houre bat ho the bere in! & also be bou, bysshop, be bote of my sorowe, & be relefe of be lodely lures bat my soule has leuyd in!
- For po wordes pat pou werpe, & po water pat pou sheddes, po bryst bourne of pin eghen, my bapteme is worthyn; po fyrst slent pat on me slode slekkyd al my tene; Ryzt now to soper my soule is sette at po table.
- For with be wordes & pe water hat weshe vs of payne
 Liztly lasshit her a leme loghet in he abyme,
 pat spakly sprent my spyrit with vnsparid murthe
 Into he cenacle solemply her soupen alle trew;
- & per a marcialle hyr mette with menske alder-grattest, & with reverence a rowme he rast hyr for ever.

 I heere perof my heghe God, & also pe, bysshop,
 Fro bale has brost vs to blis, blessid pou worthe!'
- [F. 75b] 341 Wyt this cessyd his sowne, sayd he no more;
 Bot sodenly his swete chere swyndid & faylide,
 And alle the blee of his body wos blakke as po moldes,
 As roten as po rottok pat rises in powdere.

- For as sone as he soule was sexyd in blisse, Corrupt was hat oher crafte hat couert he bones; For he ay-lastande life, hat lethe shalle neuer, Deuoydes vehe a vayne glorie, hat vayles so litelle.
- pen wos louynge oure Lorde with loves vp-halden;
 Meche mournynge & myrthe was mellyd to-geder;
 pai passyd forthe in procession, & alle po pepulle folowid,
 And alle po belles in po burghe beryd at ones.

NOTES TEXTUAL AND EXPLANATORY AND GLOSSARY



I. TEXTUAL NOTES

(A) Emendations and Notes on MS.

MS.		Emendation in Text
1	At: rubricated initial	
	sythen	[tyme]
13	pen: the e added above the line	C 4 . 3
14	cristenderame	cristendame
43		miujkkyde
	to added above the line	
49	The state of the s	the spe[k]e
	sperle: this is the only occa- sion on which single I is crossed, as if it were final II	
	vnlouke: u added above the line; cp. 162, and loke, 68	
72	lydde blotted and written in the same hand in the margin	
76	bothn: the last letter has a curl,	both[um]
	as if for final n, whereas the abbreviation is denoted by a	
82	horizontal line	
	clene: MS. glene, with g crossed out and c written above	
8.5	tecche; the top of the first c has failed	
97	myde	mv[n]de
163	bat euer wos, burghe, boko	bat wos, b[rut], bok[e]
104	more	mo[n]
103	with	[& þe]
115	dede	douthje
119	nattid	na[i tld
	a vison	a-vis[i]on
	his	[p']
130	pontificals: fi added above the	
	line	
	lattid	la[i]tid
161	p crossed out before pat	
162	vnlouke: u added above the line	
163	cure	c[reat]ure
	17	D

MS.	,	Emendation in Text.
171	glow	'gl[e]w
172	&	[vs]
173	&	[anande]
177		
179	pou	þ[us]
	no altered from ne	
181	bode: MS. bone, with d crossed out and n written above	
186	pow written above the line in a different hand	
190	brayed .	bray[þ]ed
192	sn lant goste lyfe; cp. 76	s[um] lyf[ly] goste lant
193	bis written above the line	
195	To β ^Θ	, be
205	lewid	b ^o I[app]id
206	meche	m[ut]he
	nombre; cp. 289	
208	bot: b has been altered from f	
	fife	[aght]
210	A bousande	[pre hundred]
211	an heire of anoye	on eire of an oye[r]
251	for be governour &	for gouern[ance be]
252	me	[ber]
255	ber	b[at]
262	rote: MS. route, with u crossed	l f.m. o.1
	out	
273	sayes	say
286	þi ,	p _[e]
289	nombre	r
292	þ ⁱ , ne	þ ^[e] , [m]e
293	ne; e is very smudged, but it is	n[o]
200	not o	п[о]
295	Adam: the second a is written	
	above the m	
297	tethe, take, glotte	te[c]he, t[o]ke, gl[e]tte
302	depe: the d is covered by a blot	
306	dynly	dy[m]ly
321	be wete of	[of his] wete
322	&	[be] 1
334	loghee	loghe
		9

NOTES

(B) SUGGESTED METRICAL EMENDATIONS

		(1)	DUGGESTED	MIRITAGE	II EMENDATIONS
MS.					Suggested Original.
6	new				new[e]
27	aght				aght[e]
29	ydols				ydol[e]s
30	Saxon				Saxon[e]
37	new				new[e]
40	eggit				eggit[e]
79	per-on				
94	ther				
118	þen				pen[ne]
144	fyrst				fyrst[e]
174	his				his[e]
210	aght				aght[e]
212	þen				pen[ne]
216	gentil				
229	gentil				ristle]
232	rist				ry3t[e]
241 242	ryst				hert[e]
257	hert hert				hert[e]
261	noght				Herefol
264	last				last[e]
271	has				[-]
272	best				best[e]
273	sayd				sayd[e]
292	ber				V 0 2
301	rist				
326	in				in[ne]
328	in				in[ne]
336	trew				trew[e]
340	worth				worth[e]

II. EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. [tyme]: MS. sythen.

14. communates, commonalties, bodies corporate, communities, 'communia'; see Preface, p. xxix.

Cristendame: MS. cristenderame.

17. & hade hym in sayntes: i. e. and got in saints for himself.

18. cheuely: primarily, as a chief preliminary.

& chargit hom better: and gave them a better function to discharge.

21. pe Synagoge of pe Sonne: see Preface, p. xvi.

23. dedifiet: dedicated.

(?) omit 'hom'.

24. (?) emend to 'sete', i.e. seat, see.

28. title is dative; 'and his name was given to the title of the temple', i.e. bestowed as designation.

30. (?) Saxone.

31. Triapolitanes: see Preface, p. xxiii.

33. of pis Augustynes art: of the Roman discipline, not the British. 34. loue: (?) l[e]ue. It is of interest that the phrase 'leeve London' is quoted in EDD. from Richardson's Borderer's Table-book, 1846. Perhaps the correct reading was 'loued', i. e. praised, famed.

41. Promptorium Parvulorum, grubber in the erthe.

42. So that the foundation in the first place should hold the foot, i.e. be secure. I doubt the correctness of the text, 'pe fote halde'. Probably the poet wrote 'be fote-halde'. If so, 'halde' would represent ON. haldinn, the pp. of halda, to hold, and although 'fot-haldinn' is not recorded, we find 'haldin or'r', discreet, close, which may be adduced in support of this suggestion.

43. m[u]kkyde: MS. makkyd.

44. Troy Book, 11363, deghit = digged.
49. The spe[k]e: MS. thre sperle. I venture to think that the scribe, troubled by the word 'speke', has misread it as 'sperle'. The word so far is only recorded in Piers Plowman, B, xy, 270:

'Monkes and mendynauntz, men bi hem-selue.

In spekes and in spelonkes selden speken togideres.'
'The word speke probably occurs nowhere else as an English word, and does not appear in any Glossary, to my knowledge. If it were not for the context, it were hard to guess the sense. However, it is clear that spelonke is the Lat. spelunca, from which it follows that speke is the Lat. specus' (Skeat, Piers Plowman, ii. 223).

52. roynyshe: this cannot be as *NED*. glosses it, namely from 'roin', scab or scurf, hence paltry, mean, base; for obviously the meaning is that the words could not be understood. *Cp.* runisch sauez, *Cleanness*, 1545; runisch rout, *Gawain*, 457; runischly, *Gawain*, 304;

ru[n]yschly, Gawain, 432. Obviously the sense is 'strange'. The variant form 'renisch' and other reasons make any connexion with OE. rūn, ryne, ME. roun, ON. rūn, 'rune', difficult, though attractive.

53. vigures: this form is generally regarded as a southern Middle English variant of 'figure', and, as in the present passage the valliterates, it might easily be taken as evidence of southern origin. But that the form 'vigure' was not peculiar to the south is evident from its occurrence in so northern a poem as the Cursor Mundi, where it is the form recorded in the four chief manuscripts, 1. 2290.

54. muset: i.e. all were non-plussed to read it.

64. walon: i.e. walen, betook themselves, chose their way. This rare form, the strong pp. of 'wale', to choose, evidently represents the ON. valinn, a strong pp., co-existing with valion and valdr, of velja, to choose. The form is found also in such a compound as ON. valinkunnr, respectable.

68. 'They would look on that coffin, as to what lay within.'

73-4. 'Then one might see perplexity on the people there, that

might not understand a strange marvel.'

74. to-knowe, to discern; cp. OE. tō-cnāwan, to discern, understand; tō-cnāwennes, knowledge, but no other instance than the present passage seems to occur in ME. Similarly 'for-know' (in the sense of 'to slight') occurs but once in ME., Cleanness, 119. Both these compounds are unrecorded in NED.

75. glode: the bright inside; cp. Pearl, 79, glem of glodez.

76. both[um]: MS. bothn.

83. coyfe: this means a coif. Being a great representative of the law, the figure naturally bears in the first instance the lawyer's coif.

88. 3orde: St. Paul's Churchyard.

89. MS. $h\bar{y}$, i. e. hym; not hyn = in, as Dr. Horstmann prints.

92. in sounde: in health.

93. 'For a time they asked each other without any answer'; cp. Patience, 220, 'Bot al wat; nedles note'.

vschon: this form seems to me to be due to, or to stand for, 'ylche on'. 97. my[n]de: MS. myde.

99. hit is a derfe wonder: one would rather expect 'were'; it were a great wonder unless some person had stated that he had seen him, i. e. if there were no written statement to that effect in chronicles

or the like.

100. couthe: not in the ordinary sense of 'could', but as a past auxiliary 'did', really used originally for 'gan', past tense of 'ginnan'. 'Couthe', though possibly quite correct in the present passage, was due to a confusion of 'can' = 'gan' with 'can' in the sense of 'be able'. Perhaps the poet wrote 'con' in this passage, and the scribe changed it to 'couthe', the result being the inharmonious repetition of the word here, in 1.98 (couthely) and 1.101, where 'couthe' is the correct past tense = 'could'.

101. note: cp. Note on l. 93.

nourne: this word, used three times in the poem, is peculiar to the Gawain poet, who uses it seven times in Cleanness and Gawain.

Its origin is unknown; it is evidently Scandinavian, and the only Scandinavian dialect where I have been able to trace it is that of Småland, Sweden.

102. 'Either by inscription, sign or record, or by story, tradition.'

Cp. 1. 152, Gawain, 2521.

103. patt wos breugt in b[rut] (MS. pat euer wos breugt in burghe), i. e. recorded in the annals or chronicles of the land of Britain. The scribe, not understanding 'brut', has written 'burghe'; cp. Parlement of the Thre Ages, 407, When the Bruyte in his booke Bretagne it callede.

bok[e]: MS. boko.

104. mo[n]: MS. more.

The force of the line is 'None could say (l. 101) that such a man was mentioned'.

more ne lasse: at all.

106. bolde: I much doubt the correctness of this word, which looks like a scribal change in place of some rare word. Perhaps the poet wrote 'beu' in place of 'beau', fair. The wonder was that a body so long buried was still so life-like.

107. primate: here used evidently for the Bishop of London; not

in the technical sense of 'archbishop'.

109. [& po]: MS. with; 'and the perplexity among the people'.

116. d[outh]e: MS. dede. 119. na[i]tyd: MS. nattid.

121. MS, a vison. 'Avison' existed in ME. with the accent on the first syllable, and this may account for the present spelling. For 'a-vis[i]on' cp. 'avysyoun', Pearl, 1184.

123. [þi]: MS. his.

135. See Preface.

154. pat . . . his: whose (an example of the broken relative).

155. ía[i]tid: MS. lattid.

157. 'If we regard it from the natural point of view, he has certainly not lain here so long as to pass altogether out of memory, unless it were a wonder.'

161. prouidens: prescience. 'What is marvellous to men amounts

to little, when weighed with the prescience, &c.'

163. & his mynde passyde: his mind is overcome.

168. c[reat]ure: MS. cure. 'When the creature's craft swerves entirely from counsel, then it behoves the creature to accept the strengthening of the Creator.' 'byhoues' was probably originally the Northern form 'bus'.

169. so: in this way.

171. gl[e]w...opon: MS. glow; not 'look upon', but 'call upon';

cp. Patience, 164, Bot vchon glewed on his god.

172. careles is of counselle: untrammelled in judgment, otherwise 'careles' may mean here 'not niggardly, free'; cp. Pearl, 605, For be gentyl Cheuentayn is no chyche.

[vs]: MS. &.

173 [Anande]: MS. &.

174. his: probably originally 'hise'.

176. 'And ready to fulfil your inclination.'

179. b[us]: MS. bou. layne: be silent.

190. bray[b]ed: MS. brayed: evidently a scribal error. In ON. bragea means 'to give signs of life', of a new-born babe, of one swooning or dying, derived, I think, not, as Cleasby says, from 'braga', but from ON. brage, a sudden motion. It = OE. brægd-, ME. braid. ON. bregga, to move swiftly (= OE. breggan) appears in Middle English in the form 'braybe'; cp. Cleanness, 1421, & breybed vppe in to his brayn.

192. s[um] lyf[ly] goste lant: MS. sn lant goste lyfe: cp. Gawain, 2250, 'Nay, bi God', quod Gawayn, 'pat me gost lante'. With 'sn'

compare MS. 'bothn', l. 76.

195. pe: MS. to pe.
202. That is, 'in respect of sitting in judgment, &c., i.e. sitting in judgment at the High Court, I looked after this city'. The nearest approach to this use of 'sad', which seems to be almost technical, as applied to the cases of importance that came before the chief magistrate of the city, is perhaps best illustrated by Buchanan's Detection, D. i. 6, 'quhilk esteme the sclanderis of maist lewd slicht personis, for sad testimoneis'; see Jamieson. The form 'sayd' seems to be authentic; 'said' occurs in the Edinburgh MS. of Cursor Mundi,

1. 23436, but other MSS. give 'sad'.

205. I[app]id: MS. lewid. The pp was written in Middle English in a form that might easily be misread as w; hence 'lappid' was read as 'lawid', a variant form of 'lewed'. 'To lap' is first recorded in English about 1225, in the compound 'bilappe' or 'bileppe'. The word is connected with 'lap', meaning a fold or piece of cloth. The Wycliffite rendering of Matt. xxvii. 59 translates involuit by 'wlappide' in the earlier version, 'lappide' in the later version, where the w of the earlier form is probably due to the influence of the synonymous 'wrap', though some regard the Romanic base volup, vilup of 'envelope' as paralleled by the ME. form 'wlappen'. Skeat's view, however, is preferable, namely, that the w is due to analogy. But 'enveloped' would be an excellent rendering of 'lappid', cp. 'hit is bilepped and behud', Ancren Riwle, that is, it is enveloped and hidden. The line may therefore be explained as 'it is an enveloped date to tell to any man to make a number of '. Possibly the text originally ran: 'hit is a lappid date To muthe, &c.' Vide Preface, p. xxx.

206. m[ut]he: MS. meche. The scribe, probably misreading 'muthe' as 'muche', has further transformed the adverb into the characteristic form of the poem, 'meche'. The poet's 'muthe' = 'mouthe', to mouth, tell. A similar error is answerable, according to my view, for the difficult line in Patience, 54, much zif he me ne

made = muth zif he me ma[ne]de.

207. Cp. 42.

208. [aght]: MS. fife; see Preface.

210. [pre hundred]: MS. A bousande; see Preface.

211. [o]n eire of an oye[r]: MS. an heire of anoye. This statement seems to have been a source of much trouble to all those who have attempted to deal with the line. Dr. Horstmann renders it 'heire of anoye, ein gefurchteter Herr', i.e. a terrible man. Dr. Neilson has: 'oye = grandson, but here?' But the meaning is to my mind clear. 'An heire' = 'on eire', i.e. in eyre; he was Justice in eyre, one of the itinerant Justices. 'Anoye' is a scribal error for 'an oyer'. 'Oyer' is from the well-known legal phrase 'oyer et terminer', to hear and determine. Commissions of oyer, or justices of oyer, were appointed to hear and determine indictments or special offences, and 'oyer' might be used for the Court of Oyer et Determiner. So he was the Justice in eyre of an Oyer.

213. Berynge: the poet probably wrote 'Brennyus'.

227. deputate: cp. Rolland, Court of Venus, iii. 181, Rhamnusia, quhilk was Iuge deputate, 1560.

domesmon: cp. 'domes man', Cursor Mundi, 5585, Trinity MS.,

where the other three texts have 'demister'.

243-4. 'Though it had been the very slayer of my father, I showed him no injustice, nor false favour to my father, though it fell him to be hanged.'

248. to bounty: for a reward.

249. curtest: a correct form of 'curtesest', most noble.

251. gouern[ance be]: MS. be gouernour &; cp. Alliterative Troy Book, 5719, graither of gouernaunce.

252. [ber]: MS.me.

254. be kidde kynge: this has the force of a superlative = chiefest.

255. p[at]: MS. per.

256. rewardid ouer rizt, may possibly mean 'reguarded ever justice'. On the other hand, the line looks as if it anticipated 1. 275. 273. say: MS. sayes.

275. Cp. Ps. 1xii. 12, and Pearl, 595.

278. The reference is evidently to Ps. xxiv. 3-4, 'Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord, or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart.' The Latin of the second verse, 'innocens manibus et mundo corde', seems rendered by 'pe skilfulle and po vnskathely', though it would give a nearer rendering were the words inverted. A more exact rendering of the verse is found in Pearl, 681-2. It is of interest to note that the Anglo-Saxon prose version translates 'innocens manibus' by 'pe unscætfull by's mid his handum'.

The word 'skelton' has hitherto proved a crux. NED., noting that the word 'skelt' is 'of obscure origin', quotes this passage as the first of several instances, assigning to it the sense 'to hasten, to be diligent'. A number of words of distinct origin are, I think, included under this one heading. The present word I take to be derived from OF. *esquelete, eschelete; cp. esquele, mod. F. échelle, a ladder. 'Eschellett', a small ladder, is found in the sixteenth century in English. 'Skelt' seems to be equal to '*esqueleter', to mount the steps of a ladder, and, if so, is an accurate rendering of

'ascendere', Vulgate 'ascendet'. Lat. scala, the origin of Fr. échelle, is from the same root as 'scandere'. The poet probably had in mind 'scala coeli', the ladder into heaven. The Psalm does not actually make the Lord speak, the Psalmist himself appears to be the speaker. But our poet uses 'to me' advisedly, referring the words to the Lord; for the homilist interpreted the answer as God's own response. The author of *Pearl* distinctly makes this very point, 1, 680.

'Hymself to onsware he is not dylle;'

see Note on the passage.

I would differentiate this word 'skelt' from 'skelten', Cleanness, 1554, 'scoleres skelten peratte'. This seems to me the weak past of 'skjalla', or causal 'skella', to clash, hammer, i.e. they cudgelled their brains.

The other quotations under 'skelt' in NED. with reference to skirmish and alarm may be referable, I suggest, to OF. escheleter, esqualeter, going back to OF. eschele, a little bell. If so, the phrase 'skeltyng of harme' in the Destruction of Troy, Il. 1089, 6042, would mean a notifying of peril.

285. plite: not here, as NED. suggests, pledge under risk, i.e. OE. pliht, but 'true condition, state of being, existence', AF. plite. The former meaning might be true if the reference were to the

Redemption.

286. p^[e]: MS. p¹.

292. ptel, [m]e: MS. pi, ne.

p^[e] loffynge: praising Thee. Cp. stage direction in Chester Plays, xvii (Christ's Descent into Hell): Et sic Ibunt glorificantes Deum, cantantes 'Te Deum'.

293. n[o]: MS. ne.

297. te[e]he & t[o]ke: MS. tethe & take; gl[e]tte, MS. glotte.

'Ye were empoisoned by his sin, and imbibed the corruption.'

entouchid: so far as I am aware there is no other occurrence, and certainly none recorded in English, of OF. entoschier, entochier, entoucher, with many variant forms = Latin intoxicare, i. e. to poison. Entosche, entouche = poison, n. The words are common in OF., though lost in Modern French. The collocation of 'entosche et venim' is also found, cp. 'entosche e venim out mesle' (Ben., D. de Norm., ii. 36944), and 'Male bouche

Qui envenime et qui entouche Tous ceulz dont il fait sa matiere'.

(Rose, Vat. Chr., 1522, f. 27c.)

Evidently the poet is thinking of some such combination of 'entoucher et envenimer', and wrote 'toke in the glette', i. e. imbibed the venom, 'glotte' being a scribal error for 'glette', cp. Cleanness, 306, be gore ber-of me hatz greued & be glette nwyed; also 573-4, lat vn-happen glette, De venym & be vylanye & be vycios fylbe.

In all probability the scribe, in writing 'take' for 'toke', had in raind the teeth of the whale as a symbol of death, and wrote 'glotte' with some thought of its being in the sense of swallowing; cp. Patience,

252, Wythouten towche of any tothe he tult in his prote; cp. glut, the amount swallowed at a gulp. Glette, from OF. glette = slimy fluid,

purulent matter, pus.

302. pe depe lake: the deep pit; a fairly common sense of the word in fourteenth-century Biblical English. Lat. lacus has this sense in late Latin and in the Vulgate, the idea being a hole or reservoir. Lewis and Short refer the Vulgate use in the sense of 'the place of the dead' to association with the river Styx, but there appears to be no evidence in favour of this view. It should also be noted that OF. lac is found for cavern or pit.

304. This looks like an echo of Patience, 19-20,

' pay ar happen also pat hungeres after ry3t, For pay schal frely be refete ful of alle gode.'

306. Dy[m]ly: MS. dynly.

307. Hungrie: so MS., not 'hungre'. The MS. might possibly

even be read 'hungrid'.

herken after meeles: yearn after meals. This most interesting early use of 'hearken' in the sense of 'scent after' is familiar to us in the modern phrase 'to hark back', and the dialect expression 'to hark after'. Indeed, to hark, in the sense of 'to smell', is recorded in EDD.—'Hark that smell'. Here, the sense seems to be 'to be in wait for, to yearn after'.

312. spakly: quickly, cp. Patience, 338, pat he hym sput spakly

vpon spare drye.

320. daungerde: harmed; cp. Alliterative Troy Book, 146, no

daunger nor deire.

321. [of his] wete eghén: MS. pe wete of eghen. The scribe left a small space after 'of', as if he was in some difficulty, and intended to make a correction.

322. [pe]: MS. &.

328. lures: lourings, glooms, darknesses; (?) cp. OE. lūrian; cp. Pearl, 358, & þy lure; of lyztly leme, and ll. 305-6 above.

331. slent: splash, sprinkling; cp. ON. * slent, Norw. slett, from

*slenta, ON. sletta, to dash, throw.

333. weshe vs: evidently pr. pl. It is worth suggesting that possibly the poet wrote 'weshes of payne', and that 'vs', which is somewhat unexpected, is due to a scribal misreading.

334. loghe: MS. loghee.

337. Cp. Cleanness.

343. moldes: cp. Pearl, 30, moldes dunne; Cleanness, 494, A message

fro pat meyny hem molde; to seche.

344. rottok: the next recorded occurrence after this in NED. is from Jamieson's Popular Ballads, 1806, where it is glossed as 'old musty corn, literally, the grubs in a bee-hive'; and the Banffshire Glossary under 'rottack', 1867, has 'anything stored up for a long time with the idea of mustiness'.

GLOSSARY

a, v. an. abatyd, pp. demolished, 37; OF. abatre. abbay, 108; OF. abbeie. a-boute, adv. 48; prep. aboute, 110; OE. on-būtan. abyme, pit of hell, 334; OF. abime. acounte, reckoning, 209; OF. acunt. Adam, 295. adon, adv. down, 322; OE. of after, adv. 112, 116; prep. 126, 141; according to, by the authority of, 195; OE. æfter. after-warde, 127; OE. æfterweard. age, 150; OF. aäge. aghe, n. fear, 234; ON. agi, aght, (1) pt. 3 s. owned, 27; 2 s. aghtes, 224; OE. agan. aght (2), eight, 210; OE. eahta. aghtene, eighteen, 208; OE. eahtatiene. al, adj. with sg. 119, 331; alle, 137, 246; with pl. 10, 14, 23, 171; absol. 310; al, 144; adv. 75, 122; alle, 300; OE. eall. alder, ancestor, 295; OE. ealdor. alder-grattyst, greatest of all, 5; alder-grattest, 337; OE. ealra, grēat. allas, 288; OF. a las. alowes, pr. 3 s. commends, 267; OF. alouer. als, as, 85, 242; as, 4, 36, 344; OE. eall swā. also, 327; OE. eall, swā. amounte, inf. reach, 284; OF. amunter.

an, indef. art. 108; a, 3; OE. an.

[anande], concerning, 173; OE. on efn + -d. and, 280; &, 2; ande, 59; OE. and. ansuare (1), n. 127; OE. andswaru. ansuare (2), imp. s. 184; OE. andswarian. any, 85, 206, 284; OE. ænig. Appolyn, 19. appulle, 295; OE. æppel. araide, pp. 77; arayed, OF. arayer. are (1), before, 36; OE. ær; ON. ār; cp. er. are (2), arne, art, v. be. art, school, system, 33; OF. art. as, v. als. aske, pr. pl. subj. 171; pt. s. 96; OE. āscian. aspied, pt. s. 65; cp. OF. espier. assent, n. 66; OF. assent. at, 1; from, 170; OE. æt. atyride, pp. robed, 130; Austyn, Augustine, 12; Augustynes, 33. autere, altar, 137; OF. auter. auay, inf. instruct, 174; OF. avei-, stem of avier. a-vis[i]on, vision, 121; OF. aviauisyde, pt. pl. studied, 53; OF. aviser. awen, own, 235; OE. agen. ay, ever, 278, 287, 301; ON. ei. ay-lastande, eternal, 347; ON. ei, OE. læstan. bale, sorrow, 257, 340; OE. bealu. balefully, sorrowfully, 311; OE. bealufull + -(ly).

bapteme, baptism, 330; OF. bapteme. barones, 142; OF. baron. bashis, pr. 3 s. surprises, 261; OF. esbaiss-, inchoative stem of esbair. baythes, pr. 3 s. asks, 257; ON. beiga. be, inf. 94; pres. 2 s. art, 185; 3 s. is, 19, 153; pl. arne, 304, are, 283; imp. s. be, 325; pr. 1 s. subj. 122; 3 s. 326; pt. 1 s. was, 201, 211; 2 s. wos, 288; 3 s. 11, 31; was, 3, 6, 255; pl. were, 32, 128; pt. 1 s. subj. 197; 3 s. 226, 239; pp. bene, 7, 26; OE. beon; cp. nas. bede, v. byddo. bedels, town-criers, 59; messengers, 111; OE, bydel; OF, bedel. before, prep. 143; conj. 209; OE. beforan. begynnes, pr. 3 s. 131; OE, beginnan. behalue, behalf, name, 181; OE. be healfe. belles, pl. 352; OE. belle. Belyn, 213. beme, tree, cross, 182; OE. beam. benche, judge's seat, 250; OE. bende, pp. bound, 182; bendan. bene, v. be. bere, pt. 3 s. bore, 311, 326; OE. beran. beryd, pt. pl. beat, rang, 352; ON. berja. Berynge, 213. besiet, pt. pl. employed, 56; OE. bysgian. best, v. gode.

besyde, v. by-side.

OE. bēatan.

better, v. gode,

bete, pt. 3 pl. beat, 9; pp. beten:

biddes, v. bydde. bl. v. by. bigripide, pt. 3 s. begirt, 80; OE, begripan. biknowe, imp. s. confess, 221; OE. beenawan. bileeue, faith, 173; bileue, 299; OE, (ge)loafa. bischop, 33, 111; bisshop, 193, 221; byschop, 3, 129; OE. biseche, inf. 120; OE. be- + seean. bitan, pp. given to, 28; be- + ON. taka. bitwene, adv. 196; prep. 214; OE, betweenum. blakke, 343; OE. blue. blee, colour, 87, 343; OE, blee. blessid, pp. 340; blissid, 326; blessyd, consecrated, 3; OE. blötsian. blis, 340; blisse, 345; OE. blibs. blisful, 326; blisfulle, 76; OE. blīþs + -full. blissid, v. blessid. blo, dark, 290; ON. blar. blode, blood, 182, 290; OE. blöd. blonke, horse, literally white (horse), 112; OE. blanca. blynne, inf. stop, 111; OE, blinnan. blysnande, shining, 87; cp. OE. ablīsian. bode, bidding, 181; boode, 193; OE. bod. boden, v. bydde. bode-worde, message, 105; OE. bod + word. body, 76, 94; OE. bodig. boghe, inf. bow, 194; pt. pl. boghit, went, 59; OE. būgan. boghtes, pt. 2 pl. boughtest, 289; OE. byegan. bok[e], book, 103; OE. boc. bolde, adj. 213; (?) great, 106 (see Note); OE. beald. bone (1), petition, 194; ON. bon. bone (2), murderer, 243; OE, bana. bone (3), obedient, 181; ON. būinn, ready. bones, bones, 346; OE. ban. bonkes, shores, borders, 32; ON. *banke; Olcel. bakki. boode, v. bode. bordure, edge, 51; pl. bordures, 82; OF. bordure. bot, conj. 52, 141; only, 32; if not, 100; I may not bot, 194; hit myst not be bot, 97; OE. būtan. bote, avail, 170; remedy, 327; OE. böt. bothe, 194; ON. bā*ir. both [um], bottom, 76; OE. botm. bounty, reward, 248; OF. bontet. bourne, stream, 330; OE. burna. brawnche, part, share, 276; OF. branche. bray[b]ed, pt. 3 s. moved, 190 (see Note); ON. brag*a. Bretaynes, Britain's, 32. Breton, Briton, 213; pl. Bretons, 9. breuyt, pp. written, 103; ON. brēfa: med.L. breviare. brode, broad, 55; OE. brad. broght, v. brynge. brothire, 213; OE. broder.

b[rut], chronicle, 103; W. brut. Brutus, 207. bryst, bright, 51, 87; OE. beorht, breht.

brynge, inf. 56; pp. broght, 105; OE. bringan. buggyd, pp. built, 37; buggid, 207; ON. byggja, to inhabit.

burde, pt. impers. it behoved, 260; OE. byrian. burgeys, citizens, 59; OF. bur-

geis. burghe, town, 3; OE. burh. buriet, pt. pl. buried, 248; pp. buried, 94; buriede, 106; OE. byrgan. burynes, tomb, 142, 190; OE.

byrignes.

buskyd, pt. 3 s. set out, 112; ON. būask.

busmare, n. insult, 214; OE. bīsmer.

by, prep. 66; bi, 90; OE. bī. bydde, pr. 1 s. command, 181; 3 s. biddes, 221; pt. 1 s. bede, offered, 243; 3 pl. commanded, 67; pp. boden, offered, 214; OE. beodan, biddan.

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lyf[ly], living, 192; OE. līflic.
lyftande, pr. p. lifting, 178; ON.
lypta.

lyggid, v. lye.

lyinge, verb. n. 205; OE. licgan

lykhame, body, 179; OE. līch-ama.

lym, limb, 224; OE. lim.

lyue, v. life.

lyuye, inf. live, 298; pp. leuyd, 328; OE. lifian.

macers, mace-bearers, 143; OF. maissier.

made, v. make.

maghty, mighty, 27; masti, 143; masty, 283; mysty, 175; OE. meahtig, mihtig.

Mahon, Mohammed, 20.

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malte, inf. melt, 158; OE. meltan. manas, threat, 240; OF. manace. manerly, decorously, 131; OF. maniere +-ly.

maners, habits, 60; OF. maniere. mantel, 81, 250; OF. mantel. marbre, marble, 48, 50; OF.

marbre.

marcialle, marshal, an officer who arranged the places of the guests at a banquet, 337; OF. mareschal.

Margrete, 20.

martilage, necrology, 154; med. L. martilogium.

mason, 39; OF. masson. masse, 129, 131; OE. mæsse.

matens, the service preceding mass, 128; OF. matines.

matyd, pp. baffled, 163; OF. mater, from mat, mated at chess, Pers. māt.

Maudelayne, 20.

may, pr. 3 s. 151; pl. 175; pt. 1 s. my3t, 316; 3 s. 94; pl. 74; OE. mæg.

mayster-mon, chief, ruler, 201; OE. mægester; OF. meister;

OE. mann.

mayster-ton, chief town, 26; OE. tūn.

maystrie, power, 234; OF. maistrie.

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meche, much, 220, 350; large, 81; comp. more, greater, 247; more, 341; mo, 210; comp. adv. more, 104; sup. adv. moste, 269; OE. mycel.

mecul, great, 27, 286; ON. mykell.

mede, reward, 234; medes, good deeds, 270; OE. med.

medecyn, remedy, 298; OF. medecine.

meeles, meals, 307; OE. mæl. mekest, sup. 250; ON. mjükr. mellyd, pp. mingled, 350; OF.

meller.

memorie, 158; memorial, 44; OF. memorie.

men, v. mon.

mendyd, pp. 298; AF. mender. mene, inf. mean, 54; remember, 151; OE. mēnan.

menske, honour, 337; ON. menn-

ska.

menskefully, nobly, 50; ON.

mennska+-fully.

menskes, pr. 3 s. honours, 269; pt. pl. menskid, 258; ON. mennska, n.

menyd, pt. pl. lamented, 247; OE. mænan.

menyuer, a kind of fur used for linings, 81; OF. menu vair.

merciles, deprived of mercy, 300; OF. merci+-less.

mercy, 284, 286; OF. merci. mere, mare, 114; OE. mere.

meritorie, praiseworthy, 270; OF. meritoire.

merkid, pp. marked, 154; OE. mearcian.

meruayle, wonder, 43, 158; meruaile, 160; OF. merveille.

mery, adj. 39; OE. myrige. meschefe, injury, 240; OF. mes-

chef.
mesters-mon, craftsman, 60;

OF. mestier; OE. mann. mesure, limit, 286; OF.

mesure.

metely, fitly, 50; OE. (ge)mæte +-ly.

metropol, chief town, 26; OF. metropole.

mette, pt. 3 s. 337; pl. metten, 114; OE. metan.

meynye, retinue, 65; OF. meyné. ministres, attendants, 131; OF. ministre.

mo, v. meche.

moder, mother, 325; OE. modor. moght-freten, moth-eaten, 86; OE. mo88e, moh8e, fretan.

molde, earth, 270; pl. moldes,

343; OE. molde.

mon, 4, 206; gen. s. monnes, 163, 240; pl. men, 58, 283; OE. mann. monlokest, most humane, 250; OE. mann+-ly.

mony, many, 11, 153, 220; mony a, 39, 79; mony one, 214; OE.

manig.

more, moste, v. meche.

morowen, morning, 306; OE. morgen.

motes, spots, 86; OE. mot. moulynge, verb. n. mould, 86; cp. OIcel. mygla.

mountes, pr. 3s. amounts, 160;

OF. munter.

mournynge, n. 350; OE. murnung.

mouthe, inf. declare, 54; m[ut]he, 206 (see Note); OE. mūb, n.

m[u]kkyd, pt. pl. shovelled, 43;

ON. moka.

murthe, v. myrthe.

muset, pt. pl. were at a loss, 54; OF. muser.

m[ut]he, v. mouthe.

my, v. myn.

mydelle, 80; OE. middel.

my3t (1), might, 163; pl. my3tes, 162; myghtes, 283; OE. miht. my3t (2), v. may.

mysty, v. maghty, 175.

myn, my, 194, 235; my, 123, 330; OE. mīn.

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mynnyd, pt. 3 s. mentioned, 104; ON. minna.

mynnynge, remembrance, 269; ON. minna + -ing.

mynster, temple, 27; cathedral, 35; OE. mynster.

mynster-dores, the cathedral doors, 128; OE. duru.

mynte, pt. 3 s. pointed out, 145; OE. myntan.

mynyd, pt. pl. dug, 43; OF. miner.

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myselfe, 300; OE. mē self. myste, pp. 300; OE. missan. mysterie, n. 125; OF. mistere; AF. *misterie.

na[i]tyd, pp. repeated, 119; ON. neyta, to use.

nakyde, adj. 89; OE. nacod. name, 28, 195; nome, 152, 318;

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Ne, nor, 104, 218; OE. ne. neghe, adv. nearly, 119; OE. neāh,

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neuenyd, pp. named, 25, 195; ON. nefna.

neuer, adv. 72, 156; OE. næfre. new, adj. 24; adv. anew, 6; newe, 14; OE. nēowe.

no, adj. 199, 312; adv. 179; n[o], 293; OE. nān.

noble, 38, 227; OF. noble. nost, nothing, 56, 208; noght,

101; adv. 261; nozt, 1; not, 319; OE. nowiht.

oF. noise, 218; noyce, 62;

nombre, number, 206, 289; OF. nombre.

nome, v. name.

non, by no means, 157; OE. nān, adj.

none, none, 101; non, 289; OE. nān.

nones, nonce, 38; for be n.=for ben ones; OE. for we, anes.

not, v. no3t. note, labour, 101; occupation, 152; piece of work, 38; OE. notu.

notes, 133; OF. note. nothyre, v. nober.

notyde, pp. written, 103; OF. noter.

noper, neither, 102, 152; nothyre, 199; OE. ne + ō er.

nourne, inf. tell, 101, 152; pp. nournet, adjured, 195; origin unknown.

now, 19, 325; OE. nū. noy, trouble, 289; OF. anoi. noyce, v. noice.

ny₃t, night, 119; OE. niht.

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o-lofte, v. on-lofte. on, prep. 2, 331; at, 42; one, in, 152; OE. on.

one, adj. 156, 319; with superlative, 198; OE. ān.

ones, once, 352; OE. anes. one-vnder, underneath, 70; OE.

on+under. on-lofte, adv. above, 81; prep. o-lofte, 49; ON. ā lopti.

on-loghe, adv. low, 147; OE. on +ON. lagr.

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opon, v. vpon. or, v. oper (2).

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oye[r], court of Oyer et Determiner, 211 (see Note); AF. oyer; OF. oir.

palais, palace, 115; OF. palais. Paradis, 161; OF. paradis. parage, noble lineage, 203; OF. parage.

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paynym, heathen, 285; gen. pl. paynymes, 203; OF. paienime. pepul, people, 10, 296; pepulle,

351; OF. pueple.
perle, pearl, 79; OF. perle.
peruertyd, pt. pl. turned from
the faith, 10; OF. pervertir.

pes, peace, 115; OF. pais.

Petre, 19.

piechit, pp. set, 79; OE. *piccan. pinchid, pt. pl. moved (the lid) with levers, 70; OF. pincier; ONF. *pinchier; cp. mod. Norm. pincher.

place, 10, 144; OF. place.

planede, pp. smoothed, 50; OF. planer.

plantyd, pt. 3 s. 13; OE. plantian. playn, adj. used as n., level floor of the church, 138; OF. plain.

plied, pt. pl. betook themselves, 138; OF. (a)plier.

plite, nature, 285; AF. plit, condition.

plystles, blameless, 296; OE. pliht.

pontificals, episcopal robes, 130; F. pontifical; L. pontificalis.

pope, 12; OE. papa. porer, poorer, 153; OF. povre+-er.

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poysned, pp. 296; OF. preisier.
praysid, pp. 29; OF. preisier.
prece, crowd, 141; OF. presse.
prechyd, pt. 3s. 13; OF. prechier.
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prelacie, clerical attendants, 107;
AF. prelacie.

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primate, bishop, 107; OF. primat. prince, 161, 203; OF. prince. prises, levers, 70; OF. prise. procession, 351; OF. procession. prouidens, providence, 161; OF. providence.

psalmyde, pp. written in the form of psalms; OE. psealm; L.

psalmus. pure, 13; OF. pur.

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quat, rel. pron. what, 68, 94; interr. 301; OE. hwæt.

quaynt, elaborate, 133; OF. cointe; cp. quontyse.

quen, when, 65, 291; OE. hwænne. queme, pleasing, 133; OE. gec-

quere (1), choir, 133; OF. cuer.
quere (2), where, 274, 279; OE.
hwār.

questis, bursts of song, 133; literally, cry of hunting dogs when in sight of game; OF. queste.

queber, whether, 188; nevertheless, 153; OE. hwe'ere. quil, while, 217; OE. hwīl, n.

quile, time, 105; OE. hwīl. quontyse, marvel, 74; OF. cointise, cp. quaynt. quop, pt. 3 s. said, 146, 265; OE. cweban. quy, why, 186, 222; OE. hwv. qwo, who, 185; quo, 197; OE. hwa. radly, quickly, 62; OE. hrædlice. razt, pt. 3s. gave, 280, 338; pl. raght, 256; OE. ræcan. rattes, rags, 260; derivation unknown. rayked, pt. 3s. went, 139; ON. reika. reame, realm, 11, 135; OF. reaume. rede, red, 91; OE. read. redeles, destitute of counsel, 164; OE. rædleas. redes, pr. 3s. governs; OE. rædan. redy, expert, 245; OE. (ge)ræde +-y. refetyd, pp. refreshed, 304; OF. refaitier. regne, kingdom, 212; OF. regne. regnyd, pt. 3s. reigned, 151; OF. regner. reken, upright, 245; rekenest. noblest, 135; OE. recen. relefe, relief, 328; OF. relief. remewit, pt. 1 s. deviated, 235; OF. remuer. renaide, pp. apostate, 11; OF. reneier, to renounce. renke, man, 239; pl. renkes, 271; OE. rinc. repairen, pr. pl. go, 135; OF. repairer. reson, reason, 267; by r. myn awen, by my own will, 235; resones, sentences, 52; OF. reisun.

restorment, restoration, 280;

reule, inf. rule, 231; pt. 3s. rewlit, 212; OF. reuler.

OF. restorement.

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biderwardes, 61; OE. Sider-

weard + -es.

bin, thy, 330; bi, 284; thi, 283, 290; OE. Sīn. bis, 33; this, 11; pl. bes, 317; OE. Sis. bi-selwen, thyself, 185; OE. &e selfum. bof, v. baghe. bou, 159; bow, 186; dat. the, 276; acc. 326; pe, 318; OE. &ū. pousande, 210; OÉ. þūsend. [þre], three, 210; OE. þrēo. pritty, thirty, 210; OE. prītig. burghe, by means of, 192; thurghe, through, 123; OE. burh. bus, 96, 186; OE. Sus.

vche, each, 204; vche a, 275, 348; OE. ylc; *cp.* vschon. vghten, dawn, 118; OE. on ühtan. vnchaungit, 95; un + OF. changer. vnclosid, pt. pl. 140; un-+OF. clos-, stem of clore. vnder, 203, 227; OE. under. vnhapnest, most unfortunate, 198; un-+ON. heppinn. vnknawen, unknown, 147; un-+OE. cnāwen; cp. know, toknowe.

vnlouke, inf. unlock, 67, 162; OE. unlücan. vnpreste, dull, ignorant, 285; un-+OF. prest; cp. prestly.

vnsagt, warlike, 8; un-+10E. sæht.

vnskathely, innocent, 278; un-+ ON. ska δ e, harm +-ly. vnsparid, unstinted, 335; un-+

OE. sparian.

vnwemmyd, unspotted, 96, 266; OE. unwemmed. vnworthi, 122; un-+OE. wyr8ig.

vp. adv. 118; OE. up.

vp-halden, pp. uplifted, 349; OE. up healdan.

vpon, 290, 317; vpon longe, at length, 175; opon, 76, 125; opon slepe, 92; OE. uppe on. ∇s , v. we.

vschon, each one, 93; OE. vlc ān; cp. vche.

vsen, pr. 3 pl. practise, 270; pt. 2s. vsyt, 187; 3s. 200; OF. user.

vayles, pr. 3s. avails, 348; OF. vaill-, stem of valoir.

vayne-glorie, 348; cp. OF. vaine gloire.

verray, true, plain, 53; OF. verai. verrayly, truly, 174; OF. verai +-ly.

vertue, 286; pl. vertues, 174; OF. vertu.

vigures, characters, 53; OF.

visite, inf. make a visitation at, 108; OF. visiter.

vouche-safe, inf. 121 : OF. voucher, sauf.

waggyd, pt. 3s. shook, 281; cp. MSwed. wagga.

wakenyd, pt.3s. arose, 218; OE. wæcnan.

wale, choice, to w., in abundance, 73; ON. val.

Wales, 9.

walon, pp. collected, 64; cp. ON. valinn, pp. of velja.

wan, pt. pl. won, 301; OE. winnan.

warpyd, pt.3s. uttered, 321; ON. varpa.

was, v. be.

water, 316, 333; OE. wæter. we, 301; dat. vs, 294; acc. 333;

OE. we.

wede, clothing, 96; pl. wedes, 77, 85; OE. wæd.

weghe, man, 96; pl. wehes, 73; OE. wiga.

weldes, pr. 3 s. rules, 161; OE. wealdan.

wele (1), prosperity, 233; OE. wela.

wele (2), wel, v. gode.

wele-dede, good conduct, 301; OE. wel-dæd.

wemles, spotless, 85; OE. wemman, v.

wenten, pt. pl. 69; OE. wendan. wepande, pr. p. 122; pt. pl. wepid, 220; wepyd, 310; OE.

wēpan. were, v. be.

weres, pr. 2 s. wearest, 222; OE. werian,

werke, work, 38; OE. weorc.

werke-men, pl. 69; OE. weorc-mann.

werpe, pt. 2 s. utteredst, 329; OE. weorpan.

werre, war, 215; OF. werre, guerre.

weshe, pr. pl. wash, 333; OE. wæscan.

wete, wet, 321; OE. wæt. wille, n. 226; OE. willa.

wise, manner, 77, 132; OE. wisa. witere, imp. s. inform; 185; ON.

with, 40, 79; wyt, 165, 341; OE. wið.

with-in, prep. 64; withinne, 252; adv. 68; OE. wi\u00e8-innan. with-outen, prep. 85; OE. wi\u00e8-

with-outen, prep. 85; OE. wiðūtan.

wolde, pt. pl. would, 68; OE. willan.

wonder, marvel, 73, 99; OE. wunder.

wondres, pr. pl. wonder, 125; OE. wundrian. wornes, pr. 3s. dwells, 279; OE. wunian.

wontyd, pt. 3 s. lacked, 208; ON. vanta.

worde, word, 218, 321; pl. wordes, 56, 178; OE. word.

worlde, 64, 186; OE. woruld. wormes, 262; OE. wyrm; cp.

ON. ormr. worthe, inf. happen, 258; imp. s. become, 340; pp. worthyn,

330; OE. weor δ an. wos, v. be.

wost, pr. 2 s. knowest, 183; pl. wot, 185; OE. witan.

wothe, danger, 233; ON. vāði. wrakeful, cruel, 215; QE. wracu +-full.

wrange, adj. wrong, 236; ON. *wrangr; Icel. rangr.

wranges, n. pl. wrongs, 243; ON. *wrangr; Icel. rangr.

wrathe, anger, 215, 233; OE. wræ880.

writtes, writings, 277; OE. writ. wroght, v. wyrke.

wyst, brisk, 69; ON. vigr, neut. vigt.

wynter, pl. years, 230; OE. winter.

wyrke, inf. work, 39; pt. 2s. wrostes, 274; pl. wroghtyn, 301; pp. wroght, 226; OE. wyrcan.

wyt, v. with.

wyterly, surely, 183; ON. vitrliga.

ydols, pl. 17, 29; OF. idole. ylka, v. ilke. yrne, iron, 71; OE. īren.

APPENDIX

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE TRAJAN-GREGORY LEGEND



Ι

FROM THE MONK OF WHITBY'S LIFE OF ST. GREGORY

Quidam quoque de nostris dicunt narratum a Romanis Sancti Gregorii lacrimis, animam Traiani imperatoris refrigeratam vel baptizatam, quod est dictu mirabile et auditu. Quod autem eum dicimus baptizatum, neminem moveat; nemo enim sine baptismo Deum videbit unquam. Cuius tertium genus est lacrime. Nam die quadam transiens per forum Traianum, quod ab eo opere mirifico constructum dicunt, illud considerans repperit opus tam elemosinarium eum fecisse paganum, ut Christiani plus quam pagani esse posse videretur. Fertur namque contra hostes exercitum ducens propere puguaturus, unius ad eum voce vidue misericorditer mollitus. substetisse totius imperator orbis. Ait enim illa: Domne Traiane, hic sunt homines qui filium meum occidérunt, 1 nolentes mihi rationem reddere. Cui, cum rediero, inquit, dicito mihi, et faciam eos tibi rationem reddere. At illa: Domine, ait, si inde non venies, nemo me adiuvet. Tunc iam concite reos, in eam fecit coram se in armis suis subaratam ei pecuniam componere quem 1 debuérunt.2 Hoc igitur sanctus inveniens Gregorius, id esse agnovit quod legimus; Iudicare pupillo et defendite viduam et venite et arguite me dicit Dominus.3 Unde per eum quem in se habuit Christum loquentem ad refrigerium anime eius quid implendo nesciebat, ingrediens ad sanctum Petrum solita direxit lacrimarum fluenta, usque, dum promeruit sibi divinitus revelatum fuisse exauditum, atque ut numquam de altero illud presumpsisset pagano.

(A Life of Pope St. Gregory the Great, written by a monk of the monastery of Whitby, Francis Aidan Gasquet, D.D., 1904, pp. 38, 39.)

49 ' H

¹ Sic. ² The accent is marked in the MS.

³ Isai. i. 16, 17 Iudicate pupillo, defendite viduam, et venite et arguite me, dicit Dominus.

TT

DANTE; (A) PURG. x. 73-96

Quivi era storiata l'alta gloria Del roman principato, il cui valore Mosse Gregorio alla sua gran vittoria: Io dico di Traiano imperadore; Ed una vedovella gli era al freno, Di lagrime atteggiata e di dolore. Intorno a lui parea calcato e pieno Di cavalieri, e l'aquile nell'oro Sopr'esso in vista al vento si movieno. La miserella intra tutti costoro Parea dicer: 'Signor, fammi vendetta Di mio figliuol ch'è morto, ond'io m'accoro.' Ed egli a lei rispondere: 'Ora aspetta Tanto ch'io torni.' E quella: 'Signor mio,' Come persona in cui dolor s'affretta, 'Se tu non torni?' Ed ei: 'Chi fia dov'io La ti farà.' E quella: 'L'altrui bene A te che fia, se il tuo metti in obblio?' Ond'egli: 'Or ti conforta, chè conviene Ch'io solva il mio dovere, anzi ch'io mova: Giustizia vuole, e pietà mi ritiene.' Colui, che mai non vide cosa nuova, Produsse esto visibile parlare, Novello a noi, perchè qui non si trova.

(B) PAR. XX. 43-8

Dei cinque che mi fan cerchio per ciglio, Colui che più al becco mi s'accosta, La vedovella consolò del figlio. Ora conosce quanto caro costa Non seguir Cristo, per l'esperienza Di questa dolce vita, e dell'opposta.

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(c) PAR. xx. 106-17

Chè l'una dello Inferno, u'non si riede Giammai a buon voler, tornò all'ossa, E ciò di viva speme fu mercede; Di viva speme, che mise la possa Ne'preghi fatti a Dio per suscitarla, Sì che potesse sua voglia esser mossa. L'anima gloriosa onde si parla, Tornata nella carne, in che fu poco, Credette in Lui che poteva aiutarla; E credendo s'accese in tanto foco Di vero amor, ch'alla morte seconda Fu degna di venire a questo gioco.

(DANTE, ed. Dr. E. Moore.)

III

JACOPO DALLA LANA

73. Elli si legge che al tempo di san Gregorio papa si cavò a Roma una fossa per fare fondamento d'uno lavorio, e cavando li maestri. trovonno sotto terra uno monumento, lo quale fu aperto, e dentro era in fra l'altre ossa quello della testa del defunto, ed avea la lingua cosi rigida, carnosa e fresca, come fusse pure in quella ora seppellita. Considerato li maestri che molto tempo era scorso da quello die a quello, che potea essere stato seppellito lo detto defunto, tenneno questa invenzione della lingua essere gran meraviglia, e publiconno a molta gente. Alle orecchie di san Gregorio venne tal novità, fessela portare dinanzi, e congiurolla dalla parte di Dio vivo e vero; e per la fede cristiana, della quale elli era sommo pontefice, ch'ella li dovesse dire di che condizione fu nella prima vita. La lingua rispuose: io fu Traiano imperadore di Roma, che signoreggiai nel cotale tempo, dappoi che Cristo discese nella Vergine, e sono all'inferno perch'io non fui con fede. Investigato Gregorio della condizione di costui per quelle scritture che si trovonno, si trovò

ch'elli fu uomo di grandissima giustizia e misericordiosa persona; e tra l'altre novelle trovò, che essendo armato e cavalcando con tutte le sue milizie fuori di Roma, andando per grandi fatti, una vedovella si gittò dinnanzi al cavallo in ginocchio, dicendo allo detto imperadore ch'elli li facesse ragione, con ciò fosse che uno suo figliuolo gli era stato morto. Lo imperadore avendo il cuore al sul viaggio disse: Donna aspetta che noi torniamo di questa oste, dove andiamo. La vedovella pronta rispose: Ma se tu non tornassi, come andrebbe la vicenda? E lo imperadore rispuose: Colui che sarà imperadore allora faràe la vendetta tua. E la vedovella disse: Ma che grado ne averò io a te, io che mo che tu la puoi fare, tu la metti in indugia? Allora lo imperadore costretto da giustizia e da pietade, non si parti di quello luogo, chè elli mandò e chiamare colui ch' avea fatto lo omicidio, e trovossi essere figliuolo del detto imperadore Traiano. Apresentato dinanzi da lui lo suo figliuolo per malfattore chiamò la vedovella, e disse: Or vedi costui che è mo mio figliuolo, è quello che ha commesso l'omicidio. Qual vuoi tu innanzi o ch'ello mora, o ch'io tel dia per tuo figliuolo? E sappi certamente ch'io il ti darò si libero, ch'io non avrò più a fare in lui, nè elli in me, e sarà cosi tuo suddito, come se tu l'avessi portato nel tuo corpo. Pensato la vedovella che'l suo figliuolo morto non risuscitava perchè questo morisse, disse che lo voleva per suo figliuolo, e così l'ebbe, e possideolo da quell'ora innanzi. Fatta questa vendetta lo imperadore cavalcò a suo viaggio.

Per le quali istorie così bontadose lo detto san Gregorio si mosse a pregare Dio per lui, e tanto pregò che'l detto Traiano risuscitò, e visse al mondo e fu battezzato, e tiensi ch'elli sia mo salvo. Vero è che perchè il detto san Gregorio fece preghiera per dannato, volle Dio per penitenzia di tal peccato, che da quel die innanzi per tutta la sua vita elli avesse male di stomaco. E dice l'autore che questa istoria di Traiano imperadore e della vedovella era scolpita apresso li due, di che è fatto menzione, siccome appare nel testo, la quale corrisponde alla terza malizia della superbia come è detto.

(Commentary of Jacopo dalla Lana, Milan, 1865, p. 201.)

IV

FROM BROMYARDE'S SUMMA PRAEDICANTIUM

Brit. Mus. MS. Royal 7 E. IV, fol. 275 b. Et non solum ipsi leges & iusticias quas in extraneis observari

volunt observent sed & suos propinquissimos & carissimos illas

servare faciant exemplo trajani imperatoris de quo scribitur quod tantam in suis iusticiam excercuit quod filium proprium ad seruiendum cuidam vidae tradidit quia filius suus indiscrete equitando vidue filium impotentem pro matris servicio fecerat . § Et non solum sic in seipsis vel suis familiaribus leges suas observare debent . sed quandoque propter suorum Ministrorum defectum, vel propter causas & querelas ad eos diuersis causis devolutas . ipsique quandoque inter alios iudicare deberent . pauperumque cognoscere causas . exemplum ad hoc habent in factis sancti Lodowici, d. 12. 4. & in gestis traiani imperatoris in quibus continetur quod ad bellum cum excercitu pergens . viduam quamdam obuiam habuit que eum pro iusticia in causa sua facienda interpellauit. Cui ille promisit quod in reditu ei iusticiam faceret. Cui illa. Quid si non redieris? tunc inquit successor meus tibi iusticiam faciet. Cui illa. Tu nunc mihi debitor es & non successor tuus. Si ergo mihi iusticiam non feceris fraudem mihi facis & peccas de quo factum successoris tui te non liberabit quia facta tua tibi valebunt vel nocebunt. & facta sua ei valebunt vel nocebunt & non tibi. quia iusticia iusti super eum erit & impietas impii super eum erit. Ezechiel. 18. qui sic conclusus ei iusticiam fecit, propter hec & alia iusticie opera beatus gregorius postmodum pro illo orasse legitur ad salutem qui se nunc propter talia iusticie [F. 276 a.] opera in celis coronatum videns dicere potest illud. Thi 4. reposita est mihi corona iusticie. 1 Nota L. 3. 8. Item. P. 10. 2. § Horum ergo exemplo. Si vere vtique iusticiam loquimini recte iudicate in P. & Sed heu nonnulli moderni iusticie aduocati & iudices ut dicunt de iusticia locuntur legesque condunt quas nec in seipsis nec in proximis nec in extraneis aliquid eis dantibus observant quorum periculum potet Ezechiel 5. contempsit inquid iudicia mea vt plus

¹ Printed text inserts: 'Nota de iudice cuius caput londonijs in fundamentum ecclesie sancti pauli inuentum fuit etc.'

SAINT ERKENWALD

esset impia quam gentes & precepta mea vltra quam terre que in circuitu eius sunt & iuxta iudicia gentium non estis operati sicud per predicta patet exempla ideo hec dicit dominus. patres comedent i filios & filii patres. 3ª pars peste & fame & 3ª pars gladio morietur &c. Nota de hac materia L. 5. 4. quod videlicet tales vindicte propter peccata contingunt.

Fol. 286 a (L. 3. 8).

§ 2º illam ab aliis observari faciant. quia quid valet legem condere nisi execucioni & observacioni demandetur. Nota ergo propriis parcat laboribus vel dispendiis quin leges tam a carissimis & propinquissimis quam et ab aliis omnibus subiectis observari faciant. Exemplum vnum ad hoc habetur de traiano. J. 13. 8.

Fol. 468 a (P. 10. 2).

& preservat a pena seu morte eterna patet per exemplum de traiano & vidua. J. 13. 8.

VI

ROLEVINCK: De Laude Veteris Saxoniae

Capitulum III

De moribus Westphalonum antequam ad fidem converterentur.

Rem novam, ut supra protestatus sum, ago et idcirco correctorem in his suppliciter exoro ut, quae minus ad normam vadunt, ipse ad meliorem et certiorem formam aptare dignetur. De vita ergo parentum nostrorum, ex quibus originem traximus, quoad pristinam aetatem, sicut et de ceteris gentibus, flebile est aliquid narrare, quoniam, ut ex multis signis perpendimus, omnes paene in miserabile illud sacrilegium sive idolatriae crimen corruerunt, dicente scriptura de behemoth, id est hoste antiquo: Absorbebit fluvium et non mirabitur, et habebit fiduciam quod Iordanis influat in os eius. Quod exponens beatus Gregorius dicit: Antiquus hostis pro magno non habet, quod infideles rapit, qui totum humanum genus paene per tot temporum

APPENDIX

spatia in ventrem suae malitiae traxit, sed insuper fiduciam habet. quod baptismo regeneratos absorbere possit. Ex his et aliis satis patet, quod per multa millia annorum progenitores nostri hic infideliter vixerunt et tandem pro suis peccatis ad inferna descenderunt et illic aeterna supplicia infeliciter luant. Dicit enim apostolus, quod impossibile est sine fide placere deo. Pie tamen creditur, quod clemens deus aliquos electos inter eos habuit, secundum illud psalmi: Numquid in vanum constituisti omnes filios hominum? Haec ex sententia beati Augustini probari aliqualiter possunt in xviii de civitate Dei, ubi loquitur de sancto Iob, qui nec circumcisus fuit nec legem aliquam accepit, et tamen cum suis prolibus et amicis deo fideliter servivit. Item XVI libro dicit, quod post benedictionem filiorum Noe usque ad Abraham nulla fit mentio iustorum aliquorum, nec eos tamen defuisse crediderim, quoniam si omnes commemorarentur, nimis longum fieret. Item circa annos domini declexex in Constantinopoli lamina aurea inventa est super corpus cuiusdam defuncti in quodam sepulchro, in qua sic scriptum erat: Christus nascetur de virgine Maria et ego credo in eum. O sol iterum videbis me, sub Constantino et Irene. Circa annum domini ut puto Mcc in Vienna repertum fuit caput cuiusdam defuncti, lingua adhuc integra cum labiis, et loquebatur recte. Episcopo autem interrogante qualis fuisset in vita, respondit: Ego eram paganus et iudex in hoc loco, nec unquam lingua mea protulit iniquam sententiam, quare etiam mori non possum, donec aqua baptismi renatus ad coelum evolem, quod propter hoc hanc gratiam apud deum merui. Baptizato igitur capite, statim lingua in favillam corruit et spiritus ad dominum evolavit. Ex his et similibus colligere possumus, quod divina misericordia verisimiliter egerit erga ceteras gentes, in quibus magna virtutum exempla reperimus.

(De Laude Veteris Saxoniae, Wernerus Rolevinck, ed. Dr. Ludwig Tross, Köln, 1865, pp. 28, 30.)

V

PIERS PLOWMAN: (i) B. xi. 132-71

'That is soth,' seyde Scripture 'may no synne lette Mercy alle to amende and mekenesse hir folwe, For they beth as owre bokes telleth aboue goddes werkes, Misericordia eius super omnia opera eius.'

'3ee! baw for bokes!' quod one was broken oute of helle, Hizte Troianus, had ben a trewe knyzte toke witnesse at a pope, How he was ded and dampned to dwellen in pyne, For an vncristene creature; 'clerkis wyten the sothe, That all the clergye vnder Cryste ne mizte me cracche fro helle, But onliche loue and leaute and my lawful domes. Gregorie wist this well and wilned to my soule Sauacioun, for sothenesse that he seigh in my werkes. And, after that he wepte and wilned me were graunted Grace, wyth-outen any bede-byddynge his bone was vnderfongen, And I saued, as ze may se with-oute syngyng of masses; By loue, and by lernynge of my lyuyng in treuthe, Brouzte me fro bitter peyne there no biddyng myzte.'

Lo, 3e lordes, what leute did by an emperoure of Rome, That was an vncrystene creature as clerkes fyndeth in bokes. Nou3t thorw preyere of a pope but for his pure treuthe Was that Sarasene saued as seynt Gregorie bereth witnesse. Wel ou3te 3e lordes, that lawes kepe this lessoun to have in mynde, And on Troianus treuth to thenke and do treuthe to the peple.

This matir is merke for mani of 30w ac, men of holy cherche,
The Legende Sanctorum 30w lereth more larger than I 30w telle!
Ac thus lele loue and lyuynge in treuthe
Pulte oute of pyne a paynym of Rome.
I-blessed be treuthe that so brak helle-3ates,
And saued the Sarasyn fram Sathanas and his power,
There no clergie ne couthe ne kunnynge of lawes.
Loue and leute is a lele science;
For that is the boke blessed of blisse and of ioye;—
God wrou3t it and wrot hit with his on fynger,
And toke it Moyses ypon the mount alle men to lere.

APPENDIX

7 -

PIERS PLOWMAN: (i) C. xiii. 71-99

'That is sothe,' seide Scripture 'may no synne lette Mercy, that has hell all amende of meakhases have thing; That cothe, as our cookes teneth aren acous gover werkes; Misericordia eius super omnia opera eius.'

Te, daw for bookes. Qualit on was crozen and of handite. Trowness a trewe angest in take witness of a page.
How ich was ded, and dampned to dwellen in helle
For an uncristene creature; sevent Gregorie wot the sothe.
Installate Chites were under Creature mygnes transmented to engine before me themses.
Bote onliche loue and leaute as in my lawes demynge!
Gregore wiste this well and wilnede to my soule
this country the solknesses that he self in myn werzes:
And for he wilnede wepynge that ich were saued,
God of hus goodnesse sein hus grete wil;
With the many below by lying the time was interinged.
And ich yeared, as je may see with the syngyings of masse.
Lone, without e.e. by leyer and my lawe rightful.
Sauede me Sarrasyn soule and body bothe.

Lo, lordes! what Leaute dude and leel dom y-used!
We aimte je increating the kepen this lessen to have in myrie,
And on Troismus treathe to thence alle tymes of joure lyse,
And loope for joure lorder live and do leaute elere more.

SAINT ERKENWALD

'Lawe with-outen loue,' quod Troianns 'leye there a bene,
Or any science vnder sonne the seuene artz and alle,
But if thei ben lerned for owre lordes loue loste is alle the tyme:'—
For no cause to cacche silver there-by ne to be called a mayster,
But al for loue of owre lorde and the bet to loue the peple.
For seynte Iohan seyde it and soth aren his wordes,

"Qui non diligit, manet in morte--Who so loueth nouzte, leue me he lyueth in deth-deyinge"."

PIERS PLOWMAN: (ii) B. xii. 275-93

'Alle thise clerkes,' quod I tho 'that on Cryst leuen, Seggen in her sarmones that noyther Sarasenes ne Iewes, Neno creature of Cristes lyknesse with-outen Crystendome worth saued.'

'Contra,' quod Ymagynatyf tho and comsed for to loure, And seyde, 'saluabitur vix iustus in die iudicij.

Ergo saluabitur,' quod he and seyde namore Latyne.
'Troianus was a trewe knyzte and toke neuere Cristendome, And he is sauf, so seith the boke and his soule in heuene.

For there is fullyng of fonte and fullyng in blode-shedynge, And thorugh fuire is fullyng and that is ferme bileue;

Advenit ignis divinus, non comburens, sed illuminans, etc.

Ac trewth that trespassed neuere · ne transversed azeines his lawe. But lyueth as his lawe techeth · and leueth there be no bettere, And if there were, he wolde amende · and in suche wille deyeth, Ne wolde neuere trewe god · but treuth were allowed;

And where it worth or worth nouzi · the bileue is grete of treuth, And an hope hangyng ther-inne · to have a mede for his treuthe. For, Deus dicitur quasi dans vitam eternam suis, hoc est, fidelibus; et alibi:

Si ambulauero in medio vmbre mortis, etc.

The glose graunteth upon that vers a gret mede to treuthe,
And witt and wisdome,' quod that wye 'was somme tyme tresore,
To kepe with a comune no katel was holde bettere,
And moche murth and manhod: '—and rist with that he vanesched.

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For lawe with-oute leaute·leye ther a bene!

Other eny science vnder sonne·the seuene ars and alle,

Bote loue and leaute hem lede·y-lost is al the tyme

Of hym that traueleth ther-on·bote treuthe be hus lyuynge.

Lo, loue and leaute·been oure lordes bookes,

And Cristes owen cleregie·he cam fro heuene to teche hit,

And sitthe seynt Iohan·seide hit of hus techynge;

"Qui non diligit, manet in morte"."

"Qui non ailigit, manet in morte"."

PIERS PLOWMAN: (ii) C. xv. 200-17

'Alle these clerkes,' quath ich tho 'that on Crist byleyuen, Seggen in here sarmons that nother Sarrasyns ne Iewes With-oute baptisme, as by here bokes beeth nat ysaued.'
'Contra,' quath Ymaginatif tho and comsed to loure, And seide, 'uix saluabitur iustus in die iudicii;
Ergo saluabitur, quath he and seide no more Latyn.
'Traianus was a trewe knyght and took neuere Crystendome, And he is saf, seith the bok and his soule in heuene.
Ther is follyng of font and follyng in blod-shedynge, And thorw fuyr is follyng and al is ferm by-leyue;

Advenit ignis divinus, non comburens sed illuminans.

As treuthe, that trespassede neuere ne transversede agens the lawe, Bote lyuede as his lawe tauhte and leyueth ther be no bettere, And yf ther were, he wolde and in suche a wil deyeth—

Wolde neuere trewe god bote trewe treuthe were alowed.

And where hit worth other nat worth the by-leyue is gret of treuthe,

And hope hongeth ay ther-on to have that treuthe descrueth;

Quia super pauca fidelis fuisti, supra multa te constituam:

And that is love and large huyre of the lord be trewe,

And cortesie more than covenant was what so clerkes carpen;

For al worth as god wole — and ther-with he vanshede.

(PIERS THE PLOWMAN, ed. W. W. Skeat, Oxford, 1886.)







WITHDRAWN FROM STOCK QMULLIBRARY



